

**THE EAST KENT (No. 1)  
UNITED DISTRICT.**

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**Annual Report**  
**OF THE**  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
**for the Year**  
**1926**

**BY**  
**A. M. WATTS, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.**

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PRINTERS :

"THE BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S MAIL,"

THE BROADWAY, BROADSTAIRS.

Pierremont Hall,

Broadstairs.

April, 1927.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Joint Committee of the East Kent (No. 1) United District.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my seventh Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the United District for the year 1926, which I have compiled in accordance with Circular 743 of the Ministry of Health, dated 20th December, 1926.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. M. WATTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

# THE EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICT.

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## **JOINT COMMITTEE.**

### *Blean Rural District Council.*

Alderman ALLINGTON COLLARD, J.P.

Councillor A. RIGDEN.

### *Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council.*

Councillor F. FOSTER.

Councillor J. A. FORDE, J.P.

Councillor H. BING.

### *Herne Bay Urban District Council.*

Councillor P. E. IGGULDEN, J.P.

Councillor Lieut.-Commander E. DUFFETT, O.B.E., R.N.

### *Isle of Thanet Rural District Council.*

Councillor T. S. SETTERFIELD, J.P.

Councillor H. N. SAYER.

Councillor W. LOVEDAY (*Chairman*).

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*Clerk:* E. F. OWEN,

Council Offices,

Pierremont Hall,

BROADSTAIRS.

## STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health* (who is also School Medical Inspector appointed by the Kent Education Committee) :

A. M. WATTS, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

### SANITARY INSPECTORS :

BLEAN R.D.—

R. Miles, “ Maybush,” Eddington, nr. Herne Bay.

BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER’S U.D.—

John Dain, Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs.

HERNE BAY U.D.—

H. J. Norris, Westminster Bank Chambers, Herne Bay.

ISLE OF THANET R.D.—

E. Richardson, Station Road, Birchington.

Mr. Dain and Mr. Richardson hold the Meat Inspector’s Certificate.

THE EAST KENT (No. 1) UNITED DISTRICT was formed by an Order of the Minister of Health, dated 26th May, 1920, and consists of the following districts :

*The Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter’s.*

*The Urban District of Herne Bay.*

*The Rural District of the Isle of Thanet.*

*The Rural District of Blean.*

The United District is situated at the north-east corner of East Kent, and is about 18 miles in length, with an average width of about four miles. It is bounded on the North by the Borough of Margate, the Urban District of Whitstable, and by the sea; on the South by the Borough of Ramsgate, the City of Canterbury, the River Stour and adjacent marshes; on the West by the Faversham Rural District.

The area of the four districts is as follows :

	Including Inland Water.	Excluding Water.
Broadstairs and St. Peter’s U.D. ...	2,770	2,767
Herne Bay U.D. ...	887	887
Isle of Thanet R.D. ...	18,639	18,473
Blean R.D. ...	26,882	26,865
	<hr/> 49,178 <hr/>	<hr/> 48,992 <hr/>

The population of the four districts :

	Census 1921.	Census 1911.
Broadstairs and St. Peter’s U.D. ...	15,471	9,921 (corrected)
Herne Bay U.D. ...	11,872	7,780
Isle of Thanet R.D. ...	14,085	10,564 (corrected)
Blean R.D. ...	8,682	7,597
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total population of the United District ...	50,110	35,862



A large percentage of the inhabitants of the four districts may be described as private residents. This is particularly the case in Broadstairs and St. Peter's, in Westgate and Birchington (in the Thanet Rural District), in Beltinge (in the Blean Rural District), and in Herne Bay.

The summer population of Herne Bay and Broadstairs may be estimated at three times the winter population. The population of the Rural Districts of the Isle of Thanet and Blean is also increased during the summer months by the advent of visitors from London and elsewhere.

Figures given by the Registrar-General for the population of the four districts composing the East Kent (No. 1) United District which are to be used by the Medical Officer of Health in the preparation of his Annual Report are :—

Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	...	11,390
Herne Bay U.D.	... ..	11,020
Isle of Thanet R.D.	... ..	14,150 (for Birth Rate)
„ „	... ..	12,500 (for Death Rate)
Blean R.D.	... ..	9,445

In the two rural districts a large proportion of the inhabitants are engaged in agricultural pursuits. According to the census of 1921 there were 1,010 males engaged in agriculture in Thanet and 1,008 in Blean. In the Blean Rural District there is also a colliery situated in the parish of Chislet, where some 700 men are employed, and in the Thanet Rural District is situated the Manston Aerodrome, where usually some 1,500 officers and men of the Royal Air Force are stationed.

#### DUTIES OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

I think it advisable that I should state the chief duties of the Medical Officer of Health. These are mentioned in a Memorandum issued by the Minister of Health on the 3rd April, 1925, the object of which was to indicate in more detail the duties which are specified briefly in Article 14 of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1922. There are numerous statutory provisions and departmental regulations by which powers and duties are conferred or imposed indirectly upon the Medical Officer of Health, by virtue of his position as chief advisory and executive health officer of his Authority, but it is stated in the memorandum that the chief function of the Medical Officer of Health is to safeguard the health of the area for which he acts by such means as are at his disposal, and to advise his Authority how knowledge of public health and preventative medicine can be made available and utilised for the benefit of the community. He should be prepared to advise on all matters concerning the public health services undertaken by the Council, and is responsible for directing generally the performance by the Sanitary Inspector of all the duties prescribed. Important duties devolve upon Medical Officers of Health under the Housing Acts, and it is also the function of those officers to enquire into and advise their Authorities on the adequacy of the arrangements in their districts for the isolation and treatment of infectious diseases. The opinion has been expressed by the Minister of Health that the responsibility for deciding whether in the interests of public health a patient should be removed to the isolation hospital rests entirely with the Medical Officer of Health. While he has special duties for the prevention of infectious diseases, all morbid conditions contributing to a high sickness rate or mortality in the area from these or other causes should be studied with a view to their prevention or control. The fact that the Tuberculosis Scheme is administered by officers of the County Council does not affect the powers and duties imposed on the Medical Officer of Health of a district by the Tuberculosis Regulations



of 1912, 1921 and 1924. It is necessary that the Medical Officer of Health should inspect from time to time and exercise general supervision over slaughter-houses, cold stores, dairies, cowsheds, milkshops and all other premises within his district where food of any kind is prepared, stored or otherwise dealt with for sale or preparation for sale and intended for the food of man. He should be prepared to deal with any Offensive Trade carried on within the district and also to take such steps as he is legally authorised for the purpose of securing the early abatement of any nuisance. The Medical Officer of Health should endeavour to attend all meetings of the Council and of committees of the Council dealing with matters of health, and report in writing the advice which he gives in regard to the improvement and protection of the public health in the area. In addition to the Annual Report which he is required to make by the Sanitary Officers Order, 1922, the Medical Officer of Health may be called upon by his Council or by the Minister of Health to make a report on any special subject.

### REVISION OF THE TERMS OF APPOINTMENT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

When the United District was formed in the year 1920 the population on which the arrangement for uniting the four districts under one Medical Officer of Health was based was that of the census of 1911, namely, 35,862. The census of 1921, however, showed that the population was 50,110. I found by June, 1924, that my work both as Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Inspector, to which posts I was appointed in 1920, had increased not only because of the increase in the population but on account of additional orders and regulations, and so I made a representation to the Joint Committee at that time. In the year 1926 I found that I had not time to carry out my duties satisfactorily as Medical Officer of Health mainly owing to the fact that I was devoting too much time to my work as School Medical Inspector. The population of the United District had continued to increase and new Acts of Parliament and Regulations had come into force since my appointment, and so I felt it my duty to mention the matter in my report to the Joint Committee for the first quarter of the year, and to explain my position to the Sanitary Committee of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council at their meeting on the 19th July. They considered the matter and resolved that it be referred to the Joint Committee at their next meeting.

The Joint Committee having given the question their serious consideration and having consulted the four Councils, resolved at their meeting in January, 1927, that I should resign my position under the Kent Education Committee and devote the whole of my time to my duties as Medical Officer of Health and that the consequent loss sustained by me in salary should be made up by the four Councils in proportion to their <sup>of their districts</sup> population, and this proposal, which originated with the Councils of the Blean and Herne Bay districts, received the sanction of the Minister of Health.

I would venture to point out that I have an inclusive salary, which means that out of it I have to pay my travelling expenses, including the upkeep of a motor-car. I also have to pay for clerical assistance, for stationery and other office expenses. Half my salary is contributed by the County Council from a grant made from the Imperial Exchequer. Unlike a Medical Officer serving in the Armed Forces of the Crown, or in the Civil Service or one employed under the Poor Law, I am not entitled to a pension, except as Medical Officer of Health to the Isle of Thanet Rural District, the Council of which district have adopted the Local Government and other Officers Superannuation Act, 1922.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

*Number of Deaths—*

Male	...	...	...	...	213
Female	...	...	...	...	278
Total	...	...	...	...	491

*Death Rate from all causes per 1,000 of the population—*

United District ...	11.06	England and Wales ...	11.6
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*Number of Births—*

Male	...	...	...	...	232
Female	...	...	...	...	282
Total	...	...	...	...	514

*Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—*

United District ...	11.17	England and Wales ...	17.8
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*Deaths of Infants under one year of age—*

Male	...	...	...	...	11
Female	...	...	...	...	9
Total	...	...	...	...	20

*Infant Mortality Rate (Total deaths under one year of age per 1,000 registered births)—*

United District ...	38	England and Wales ...	70
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		Broadstairs & St. Peter's U.D.	Herne Bay U.D.	Isle of Thanet R.D.	Blean R.D.
Census, 1921. Taken 19th June.	...	15,471	11,872	14,085	8,682
Population estimated by Registrar General.					
Middle of 1921	...	11,130	10,130	12,020 (for B.R.) 11,329 (for D.R.)	8,280
Middle of 1922	...	11,070	10,080	12,110 (for B.R.) 11,420 (for D.R.)	8,296
Middle of 1923	...	11,090	10,100	12,220 (for B.R.) 11,530 (for D.R.)	8,278
Middle of 1924	...	11,320	10,190	13,560 (for B.R.) 11,950 (for D.R.)	8,728
Middle of 1925	...	11,280	10,440	13,200 (for B.R.) 11,980 (for D.R.)	8,770
Middle of 1926	...	11,390	11,020	14,150 (for B.R.) 12,500 (for D.R.)	9,445



## UNITED DISTRICT.

			Nett Birth Rate.		Nett Death Rate.		Nett Infant Mortality. Rate.
1920	...	...	18.46	...	10.18	...	58
1921	...	...	14.6	...	10.59	...	57
1922	...	...	13.28	...	11.01	...	38
1923	...	...	14.05	...	10.31	...	25
1924	...	...	12.19	...	10.59	...	52
1925	...	...	11.55	...	11.2	...	65
1926	...	...	11.17	...	11.26	...	38

## INFANT MORTALITY.

Causes of death in children under one year of age :

BLEAN R.D. Five.

Bronchitis  
Immaturity  
Marasmus  
Congenital Atelectasis  
Anterior Poliomyelitis

BROADSTAIRS U.D. Three.

Pneumonia  
Encephalitis Lethargica  
Acute Tuberculosis

HERNE BAY U.D. Six.

Premature Birth  
Atelectasis  
Prematurity (2)  
Failure of Breathing  
Malnutrition

ISLE OF THANET R.D. Six.

Broncho-Pneumonia  
Influenza  
Status Lymphaticus  
Syphilis  
Miliary Tuberculosis  
Congenital Sarcoma

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ... ..	67	54	—
Diphtheria ... ..	54	53	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	2	1	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	2	2	—
Pneumonia ... ..	71	—	25
Erysipelas ... ..	10	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	2	—	1
Poliomyelitis ... ..	32	3	2
Polio-Encephalitis ... ..	33	8	3
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	3	1	—
Malarial Fever ... ..	1	—	—
Measles ... ..	18	—	—
German Measles ... ..	2	—	—
Chicken Pox... ..	56	—	—
Total ... ..	353	122	31

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No. of cases notified—3. No. treated in hospital—1. No. recovered with vision unimpaired—3.



## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
1 ... ..	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	1
5 ... ..	—	1	11	3	—	—	—	—
10 ... ..	—	2	2	5	—	—	—	—
15 ... ..	2	9	1	1	—	1	—	—
20 ... ..	3	6	—	2	1	—	1	—
25 ... ..	3	8	3	1	2	5	—	1
35 ... ..	16	2	—	2	6	1	1	1
45 ... ..	4	4	—	—	5	—	—	1
55 ... ..	5	3	1	2	2	2	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Total ... ..	33	36	19	18	17	10	2	6

## NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING PREVIOUS YEARS.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1921 ... ..	32	44	20	17
1922 ... ..	39	41	12	7
1923 ... ..	31	42	10	12
1924 ... ..	37	54	9	13
1925 ... ..	35	45	13	25

## NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS REMAINING ON THE REGISTERS OF THE FOUR DISTRICTS ON DECEMBER 31st, 1926.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Broadstairs & St. Peter's U.D. ... ..	26	44	12	11
Herne Bay U.D. ...	21	27	10	14
Isle of Thanet R.D. ...	24	30	14	30
Blean R.D. ... ..	8	23	9	8
Total ... ..	79	124	45	63

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED IN THE UNITED DISTRICT BY THE POOR LAW GUARDIANS.

There are two Poor Law Institutions, one provided by the Isle of Thanet Board of Guardians, situated at Minster, and the other provided by the Blean Board of Guardians and situated at Herne Common. In addition, there are Cottage Homes provided by the Guardians of the Isle of Thanet Union and situated at Manston, near Ramsgate. There is accommodation for 105 children in 7 homes.

The Minster Institution, which has 576 beds, admits persons from the whole of the Isle of Thanet Union, including the Boroughs of Margate and Ramsgate, while the Blean Institution receives persons from the Blean Union, which comprises Herne Bay U.D., Whitstable U.D., and Blean R.D., and contains 147 beds.

### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION IN THE DISTRICT.

There is only one Voluntary Hospital situated in the United District for dealing with ordinary cases of illness and that is the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital at Herne Bay, which contains 14 beds.

Many patients from the district attend the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, which contains 116 beds, and some are treated in the Margate Cottage Hospital, containing 31 beds, and others in the Ramsgate General Hospital, which has 58 beds and cots, while patients suffering from diseases of the Ear, Eye, Nose and Throat, receive treatment at the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone. A fund is being raised for the purpose of rebuilding the Margate Cottage Hospital.

### ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

#### *Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.—Isle of Thanet R.D.*

Cases of Infectious Disease occurring in the above-named districts are admitted to the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital, as are also cases from the Boroughs of Ramsgate and Margate. The Hospital is managed by a Joint Hospital Board composed of delegates from the four authorities concerned, numbering 23. The Mayors of the two Boroughs and the Chairmen of the two District Councils being ex-officio members of the Hospital Board, The Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.C., in May, approached the Joint Hospital Board with a view to the representation of the Urban District on the Board being increased by one. The Board, having raised no objection, an application was made to the Minister of Health for the issue of a Provisional Order.

The building is constructed of brick and is suitably situated at Haine, in the Isle of Thanet R.D., about two miles equally distant from Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs. It has gas and water laid on from Broadstairs and is connected with the Ramsgate sewerage system. A supply of water is also obtained from a deep well in the grounds. It stands on about ten acres of land, but there are four acres of land adjoining which have been purchased by the Board and would be available if it were necessary to increase the size of the Hospital. On this land is situated a bungalow in which the Medical Officer lives. There is accommodation in the Hospital for about 100 patients.

During the year a loan of £37,000 which was taken up in 1901 for the purpose of erecting the Joint Hospital by the Board was paid off, and in consequence the four constituent authorities have to find £2,030 less per annum.



Dr. J. C. Durston having resigned his post as medical superintendent, owing to ill-health, at their meeting on June 9th the Board appointed Mr. E. Harding-Freeland, F.R.C.S., as resident medical officer.

At a meeting of the Board held on the 18th of November, it was resolved that cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia should be admitted to the hospital for treatment from the four districts. A separate block usually called the observation block is to be set apart for these cases.

A Smallpox Hospital, consisting of a corrugated iron building, containing 16 beds, allowing about 2,000 cubic feet per bed is provided for the whole of the Isle of Thanet and managed by the Joint Hospital Board. It is in close proximity to the Isolation Hospital, from which it is separated by the disused Southern railway line, and is situated in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District. This hospital is under the supervision of the same medical officer.

#### HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

Cases of infectious disease occurring in the above-named district, if they be Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever, are admitted to a small building in Sea Street, consisting of two cottages. This hospital has been in existence for more than thirty years and accommodates four patients. Cases of infectious disease are also sent from the Herne Bay Urban District to the Isolation Hospital of the Blean Rural District under an agreement whereby patients are received on payment of 12s. per head per day.

#### BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of infectious disease occurring in the Blean Rural District are treated in the Council's Isolation Hospital situated about one mile from Herne Bay. The hospital, which is built of brick, is in an isolated position and is erected on a piece of land about three acres in extent. There is accommodation for about 16 patients in three separate ward blocks. Some cases of infectious disease are admitted from the Herne Bay Urban District and some from the Whitstable Urban District.

The post of medical officer to this hospital became vacant on 21st October by the death of Dr. C. K. Bowes, which took place suddenly. He had held the office since the year 1893. At the meeting of the Blean Rural District Council on December 7th, Dr. J. R. Hamerton was appointed to succeed him.

There is a Smallpox Hospital situated in the Blean Rural District, near the boundary of the Herne Bay Urban District, and built in the year 1902 by the Council of the latter district which provides accommodation for cases of this disease occurring in either district. The building is constructed of wood and corrugated iron.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

There is no institution in the United District for the residential treatment of cases of Tuberculosis provided by local authorities or the County Council, but there is a sanatorium provided by the County Council at Lenham in Mid-Kent. Cases of Tuberculosis occurring in the county are also admitted to the Grosvenor Sanatorium, near Ashford, and to the Keycol Hill Sanatorium, near Sittingbourne, 40 beds being available in each of these institutions in addition to 165 in the Lenham Sanatorium. Many other institutions are available for treatment of cases of Tuberculosis notified in the county in connection with the County Council's scheme. The majority of the advanced cases are accommodated at the Keycol Hill Hospital where the County Council have recently extended their agreement to cover 60 beds. In the year 1925, 1,315 patients received residential treatment for which the County Council was responsible.



## MATERNITY.

There is no Maternity Hospital subsidised by the local authority or the County Council in the United District, but arrangements have been made by the County Council with various hospitals and homes for the reception of complicated maternity cases, or where the home conditions of the patients are unsuitable. Among these are the Kent and Canterbury Hospital and the Maternity Hostel, Canterbury.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

## FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.

The Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board possesses a motor ambulance which is housed at the hospital, and in it patients are removed from the Isle of Thanet Rural District, Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District, and also from the Boroughs of Margate and Ramsgate. This was provided in 1921.

The Herne Bay Urban District Council has a horse ambulance, in which patients are removed to the Council's hospital at Sea Street. This was purchased in the year 1921.

The Blean Rural District Council has an ambulance mounted on a motor lorry in which patients are removed to the Council's Hospital. Arrangements were made for the use of the motor lorry in 1921.

## FOR NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.

*The Isle of Thanet Rural District.*—A motor ambulance is stationed at Birchington for the removal of patients to hospital from the rural district. It is supplied by the British Red Cross and the Order of St. John; is in charge of the local Ambulance Corps, and 37 cases were removed in it during the year.

A motor ambulance was provided by the Westgate-on-Sea Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in 1925, and 19 cases were removed during the year.

*Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District.*—During the year 144 cases were removed by the motor ambulance which is on loan from the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and is in the custody of the local Ambulance Corps. A committee has been formed for the purpose of raising a fund for the purchase of a new motor ambulance.

The work done by the Corps is entirely voluntary and all sums received are applied to the maintenance of the motor ambulance and the general expenses of the Corps. It was provided in the year 1921.

*Herne Bay Urban District.*—A division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was formed in the year 1925 and a motor ambulance was obtained. In October, 1926, the new headquarters garage, practice and lecture room of the local division was opened in New Street. The number of cases removed by the ambulance during the year was 119.

## CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Three centres are in existence, one a voluntary one, in Broadstairs, and two carried on by the County Council, one at Herne Bay and one in the village of Herne. The Broadstairs Centre is called the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Mothercraft Club, and provides all the accommodation necessary for an efficient Infant Welfare Centre. Arrangements have been made for certain rooms in the building to be used by the Kent Education Committee for the purpose of a School Clinic. The Health Visitor, Mrs. Morris, who is superintendent, resides here. A small children's ward has been opened for the reception of cases which require special attention. The Committee

have engaged the services of a trained Nurse and qualified Midwife, who also resides at the Mothercraft Club. A medical practitioner attends once a fortnight and weekly lectures are given. For the year ending March 31st, 1926, the attendances were :—

Attendances.			Average Weekly Attendance.		
Women	...	1,997	Women	...	45-50
Children	...	920	Children	...	28
Infants	...	886	Infants	...	24

The Infant Welfare Centre at Herne Bay is held at the Parochial Institute, which provides excellent accommodation, one afternoon a week. One of the local medical practitioners attends to give advice to mothers once a week, and a lecture is given by him once a month and instruction is given by the Health Visitor. The attendances of children at the centre during the four quarters of the year were 637, 558, 504 and 602.

As at the Broadstairs Centre, tea is provided for those who attend, and dried milk, Virol, etc., is provided at cost price. At the Church Institute in the village of Herne a centre was opened on the 18th August, 1925. The Doctor and Health Visitor attend once a fortnight, the former gives a lecture once a month. The centre is carried on in the same way as the one at Herne Bay. A Thrift Club is in existence at all three centres.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The following is a list of Dispensaries which are available for the inhabitants of the United District :—

Address.	Day and Time of Attending.
<i>Canterbury</i> , 11, Longport Street	Friday, 10 a.m.-12 noon and 1.15 p.m.-2.30 p.m.
<i>Faversham</i> , 2, Albion Terrace ..	Tuesday, 1 p.m.
<i>Herne Bay</i> , 16, High Street ...	1st and 3rd Thursday each month at 12 noon.
<i>Ramsgate</i> , Charlotte Cottage, Market Place	Wednesday, 1.30 p.m.
<i>Margate</i> , Eaton House, St. Peter's Road	Friday 2 p.m.

Tuberculosis officers and nurses attend at the dispensaries, and the latter also visit patients in their own homes.

### VENEREAL DISEASE.

The County Medical Officer is responsible for the arrangements made for the treatment of cases of Venereal Disease by the County Council, and Clinics approved by the Minister of Health, which are available for the inhabitants of the United District, have been provided as follows :—

Kent and Canterbury	Women	Tuesday, 6 p.m.
Hospital	Men	Thursday, 6 p.m.
2, Albion Terrace	Men	Thursday, 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
Faversham	Women	Thursday, 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Eaton House, St.	Men	Wednesday, 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.
Peter's Rd., Margate	Women	Wednesday, 4.30 to 5.30 p.m.

### DISTRICT NURSING.

#### BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

A District Nurse is provided for the Parish of St. Peter-in-Thamet. She also acts as part-time nurse for St. Peter's Church of England and Reading Street Schools. There is no District Nurse for the Parish of Broadstairs, but the provision of one is contemplated.



## THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.

*Monkton, St. Nicholas-at-Wade and Sarre.*

There is a District Nurse for these three parishes who works under the auspices of a local association which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association. The local association was started in the year 1920.

*Minsler.*

There is a Nursing Association in existence in the village which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association. The nurse commenced duty in September, 1923.

*Herne Bay Urban District.*

The District Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association, provides a District (Queen's) Nurse. The number of visits paid during the year was 3,928. The financial statement showed that there was a credit balance of £271 3s. 5d.

## BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

*Chislet, Hoath and Reculver.*

There is a District Nurse working in these three parishes under a local association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

*Sturry.*

A District Nurse works in the parishes of Sturry, Fordwich and Westbere under the auspices of a nursing association affiliated to the County Association. The local association was started in the year 1921.

*Blean.*

A District Nurse, employed by a local association which is affiliated to the County Association, works in the parishes of Harbledown, Blean and St. Stephens.

## NURSING INSTITUTIONS.

There are several private nursing institutes in Broadstairs, St. Peter's, Westgate, Birchington and Herne Bay, and the following Sanatoria and Residential Institutions approved by the Minister of Health for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis are situated in the United District :—

The St. Nicholas branch of the Cheyne Hospital for children, near Birchington (for " surgical " cases only).

" Bishopsbourne " Invalid Home, Broadstairs (for intermediate and afebrile cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in adult males only).

St. Anne's Convalescent Home, Herne Bay (part of) (for non-pulmonary cases in children).

Tait Home (St. Peter's Convalescent Home), Broadstairs (for surgical cases, females over 14 years of age only).

The Metropolitan Convalescent Institution (Children's branch), Broadstairs.

The Old Manor House, Crow Hill, Broadstairs (adult females only).

The accommodation in the last named was increased during the year by the adaptation of a building in the grounds for the use of patients. The necessary alterations were very satisfactorily carried out and the building is well fitted.

The Victoria Convalescent Home (children).

St. Mary's Convalescent Home.



## SCHOOL NURSING.

The following nurses carry out the work of school nursing :—

Broadstairs U.D. ... ..	Mrs. Morris
Parish of St. Peter-in-Thamet ... ..	Nurse Sears
Herne Bay U.D. and the parishes of Herne and Sturry in the Blean R.D. ... ..	Mrs. Stokes
Parishes of St. Dunstons Without and West- bere in the Blean R.D. ... ..	Miss Worthington
Parishes of Chislet, Hoath and Reculver in the Blean R.D. ... ..	Nurse May (District Nurse)
Parishes of Hackington and Blean in the Blean R.D. ... ..	Nurse Marden (District Nurse)
Parishes of Sarre, St. Nicholas, Birchington, Westgate, Acol, Garlinge and St. Lawrence in the Thanet R.D. ... ..	Nurse Tustain
Parishes of Minster, Monkton, and Stonar in the Thanet R.D. ... ..	Nurse Cheesman
Whitstable-cum-Seasalter and Swalecliffe ...	Nurse Masker

## MEASLES.

The Urban District Council of Herne Bay employs a part-time nurse to visit cases of Measles which are notified in the district. Her salary is £15 a year.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The administration of the Notification of Births Act, 1907, the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, and the Milk (Mothers and Children) Orders is in the hands of the County Council, which body levies a rate of a farthing in the £ for the purpose of carrying out the provision of these Acts, and employs six nurses as Health Visitors, who are also Tuberculosis Nurses.

Their districts are arranged as follows :—

Nurse Morris ...	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.
Nurse Stokes ...	Herne Bay U.D. and the parishes of Herne, Hoath, Reculver and Sturry in the Blean R.D.
Nurse Worthington .	Parishes of Hackington, St. Dunstons Without, and Westbere in the Blean R.D.
Nurse Masker ...	Parishes of Seasalter, Swalecliffe and Blean.
Nurse Tustain ...	Parish of Chislet in the Blean R.D.; Parishes of Sarre, St. Nicholas, Birchington, Westgate, Acol, Garlinge, St. Lawrence in the Thanet R.D.
Nurse Cheesman ...	Parishes of Monkton, Stonar and Minster in the Thanet R.D.

## MIDWIVES.

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District there are five practising.

In the Thanet Rural District there are two practising at Birchington, one at Westgate, and the district nurses who live at St. Nicholas and Minster are also Midwives.

In the Herne Bay Urban District there are three practising Midwives.

In the Blean Rural District the three District Nurses are also Midwives. They reside at Sturry, Blean and Chislet.

## DISINFECTION.

There are three Steam Disinfectors available for use in the United District, and there is in addition one at the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital.

The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council possess a "Thresh" which is erected in the Council's yard. It was found in October that this was unfit for use. The Council have since decided to have it repaired temporarily, and are making arrangements for the provision of a new one, larger in size and of high pressure type, to be erected on a more suitable site.

The Isle of Thanet Rural District Council have a "Washington Lyon" belonging to the Council, situated at the Poor Law Institution, Minster. This is a high pressure disinfecter.

A "Thresh" Steam Disinfecter, the property of the Blean Board of Guardians which is situated at the Blean Poor Law Institution, is available for the use of the Blean Rural District Council and the Herne Bay Urban District Council. This is an old machine, but when it was tested in the year 1921 it was found reliable. It would be a great advantage if a Steam Disinfecter were erected at the Isolation Hospital belonging to the Blean R.D.C. and available for both Blean and Herne Bay districts. The disinfecter at the Poor Law Institution has been in use for many years.

## LABORATORY.

The bacteriological work connected with the United District is carried out at the County Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone, free of charge. This is a very valuable asset to the Medical Officer of Health in dealing with outbreak of disease. The bacteriological examination of water and milk samples is also of great importance.

The chemical examination of samples of water is carried out by the County Analyst.

## SCHOOLS.

The routine inspection of children attending the elementary schools was carried out as usual, the children inspected being those born in the following years: 1921, 1918 and 1913.

School Clinics are in existence at Broadstairs and Herne Bay, at the Mothercraft Club and the Parochial Church Institute respectively. The School Dentist attends one day a week at each clinic, in addition to carrying out inspections and treatment of children at certain of the schools. The School Oculist visits the Broadstairs Clinic, and the School Medical Inspector attends at each clinic one morning in each month.

## SCHOOL CANTEENS.

There are four school canteens in existence in the United District at Herne Bay, St. Peter-in-Thamet, and St. Stephen's, near Canterbury, and one which was opened at Chislet in April with 73 children. During the coal stoppage, on an average 95 children attended for a midday meal each day. The provision of wholesome meals for those children who live too far from their dwellings to go home to dinner has a very beneficial effect. There are, unfortunately, however, a certain number of parents who do not feel inclined to pay the charge made, which is 3d. per meal.

## PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

There are many good-class private Boarding Schools situated in the United District, mostly of a preparatory nature, particularly in Broadstairs and Westgate. As a rule they are provided with sanatoria in which can be isolated scholars suffering from infectious diseases. To the best of my knowledge the sanitary arrangements in connection with these schools and their water supply may be considered quite satisfactory. As a rule each school has its own medical attendant, who not only treats the pupils, but advises the principal on matters of hygiene.



**BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.**

Area (excluding water)	...	...	...	...	26,865 acres
Population (Census 1911)	...	...	...	...	7,597
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	8,682
Population, 1926 (R.G.)	...	...	...	...	9,445
Population (estimated 1926)	...	...	...	...	9,266
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,006
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	...	1,980
Ratcables Value of the Rural District	...	...	...	...	£70,593
Amount produced by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£244
Structurally separate dwellings occupied 1921	...	...	...	...	1,913

## Adoptive Acts in force :

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907—

Part II., Secs. 15, 16, 17 and 23.

Part III., Secs. 34, 35, 38, 43, 44, 46 and 49.

Part IV.

Bye-laws made under the public Health (Amendment) Act 1890, Sec. 26, are in force in the parishes of St. Stephens, Sturry, Westbere, Herne and Reculver.

Special regulations as to the constructions of drains and connections to the sewer are in force in the parishes of Herne and Reculver only.

POOR LAW.—Cost of Out-Relief for the Blean Rural District during the year ended 31st March, 1927, was £738 8s. 3d.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

*Births*      Male      56 (Legitimate 56, Illegitimate -)  
                  Female    74 (Legitimate 71, Illegitimate 3)

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Total    130

Birth Rate (R.G.), 13.76.

Birth Rate (E. and W.), 17.8.

*Deaths* (Civilians only)    Male      53  
    Female    48

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Total    101

Death Rate (R.G.), 10.69.

Death Rate (E. and W.), 11.6.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :

From Sepsis, Nil

From other causes, Nil.

*Deaths of Infants under one year :*

Legitimate, Male    2

Illegitimate, Male    1

Legitimate, Female    2

Illegitimate Female -

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4

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1

Infant Mortality Rate :—

(England and Wales 70)

Total, 38 per 1,000 registered births

Legitimate, 30                      Illegitimate, 333.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Nil.



## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT, 1926.

MALES. FEMALES.

Civilians only.	All Causes....	...	...	53	48
1. Enteric fever	...	...	...		
2. Small-pox	...	...	...		
3. Measles	...	...	...		
4. Scarlet fever	...	...	...		
5. Whooping cough	...	...	...		
6. Diphtheria	...	...	...		
7. Influenza	...	...	...	2	1
8. Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...		
9. Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...		
10. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	3	3
11. Other tuberculous disease	...	...	...		1
12. Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	4	13
13. Rheumatic fever	...	...	...		
14. Diabetes	...	...	...		
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	5	3
16. Heart disease	...	...	...	10	12
17. Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	2	1
18. Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	2	1
20. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...		1
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...		
22. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...		
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...		
24. Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	1	
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	3	1
26. Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...		
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...		
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	1	3
29. Suicide	...	...	...	2	
30. Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	3	2
31. Other defined diseases	...	...	...	13	6
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...		

## BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

	Nett Birth Rate.	Nett Death Rate.	Infant Mortality Rate.
1920	20.51	12.07	59
1921	16.9	11.94	35
1922	13.5	12.05	53
1923	18.72	12.8	12
1924	16.95	9.39	47
1925	13.5	10.6	53
1926	13.76	10.69	38

## ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Nett Birth Rate.	Nett Death Rate.	Infant Mortality Rate.
1920	25.4	12.4	80
1921	22.4	12.1	83
1922	20.6	12.9	77
1923	19.7	11.6	69
1924	18.8	12.2	75
1925	18.3	12.2	75
1926	17.8	11.6	70

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.					Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	9	6	
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	22	22	
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	1	1	
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	9		3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	2		
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	3	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1		
Total	...	...	...	...	47	31	4

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No. of cases notified—1. No. treated in hospital—1. No. recovered with vision unimpaired—1.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR  
1926 IN THE BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

	Number of Cases Notified.— 47											
	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...				2	1	4	2					
Diphtheria ...		1	1	1		9	6	2	1			1
Enteric Fever...										1		
Puerperal Fever												
Pneumonia ...		1	1			1		2			2	2
Erysipelas ...										1	1	
Acute Poliomyelitis	1						2					
Puerperal Pyrexia									1			
Total ...	1	2	2	3	1	14	10	4	2	2	3	3

## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...								
1 ...								
5 ...		1	1					
10 ...			1					
15 ...	1	1	1					
20 ...								
25 ...		3	1		1	2		1
35 ...	2	1			2			
45 ...		1						
55 ...	1					1		
65 and upwards								
Total ...	4	7	4		3	3		1

In addition to the above new cases there was one (Pulmonary, aged 37) which was not notified, but which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the death returns.

CASES ADMITTED TO THE BLEAN ISOLATION HOSPITAL,  
during the years 1920 to 1926 inclusive from the Herne Bay Urban District.

		Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Total.	Total number of days under treatment.
1920	...	5	1	2	—	—	8	253
1921	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1922	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1923	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1924	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1925	...	—	1	—	1	—	2	57
1926	...	5	—	3	2	1	11	374

NUMBER OF CASES TREATED IN THE BLEAN ISOLATION  
HOSPITAL.

1924.		Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Enteric	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Blean	...	16	—	1	—	—
Herne Bay	...	—	—	—	—	—
Whitstable	...	3	1	—	—	—
Total	...	19	1	1	—	—
1925.						
Blean	...	9	—	—	—	—
Herne Bay	...	—	—	1	1	—
Whistable	...	5	—	2	—	—
Total	...	14	—	3	1	—
1926.						
Blean	...	6	31	—	1	—
Herne Bay	...	3	5	—	2	1
Whitstable	...	5	23	2	—	—
Total	...	14	59	2	3	1

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for use in necessitous cases. It is kept at the office of the Sanitary Inspector.

As far as is known, no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever in the district.

No primary or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917, during the past year.

In the event of a case of infectious disease being notified among the scholars attending a public elementary school, the head teacher concerned is informed by the Medical Officer of Health and the head teachers keep him informed of any children with suspicious symptoms attending their schools. He visits the schools and takes any action which he considers necessary.

Facilities are available for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings at the Blean Poor Law Institution. Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

He describes his method of disinfection after a case of infectious disease as follows: All bedding is wrapped in coverings and conveyed by lorry to the Blean Union and passed through the steam disinfector. Also articles of



personal clothing, such as suits, dressing gowns, etc. Before the bedding leaves for the Union the room is sealed and formaldehyde tablets burnt in it. In some cases the rooms have in addition been sprayed with Izal diluted in 1 in 40 parts of water. Schools are always sprayed, all books being opened and stood on edge.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor has it been necessary for the Council to take any action under the Public Health Act, 1925, Sec.62.

#### BURIAL GROUND AT STURRY.

During the first quarter of the year, at the request of the Clerk to the Sturry Parish Council, I inspected with him and the Sanitary Inspector certain pieces of ground in the parish with a view to reporting as to their suitability for the purpose of a burial ground for the parish. I formed the opinion that one of the sites visited would be suitable for the purpose. There is not much available land in the parish of Sturry and there is no doubt that a burial ground is very necessary owing to the condition of the churchyard.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the second quarter of the year an outbreak of Diphtheria took place, the total number of persons treated in hospital being sixteen, including two nurses. Of these, ten were notified as cases of Diphtheria, the rest being considered "carriers." Of the sixteen, eight were children attending Hoath Church of England school. These children belonged to five families. In addition, five children were found positive when all the children in the school were swabbed on May 10th. They were not allowed to return to school until they were found to be free of infection by swabbing. They were not removed to hospital. The first information I had of the outbreak was a notification received on 13th April of a boy aged 15 who was removed to the Isolation Hospital the previous day. After suffering from sore throat for a week he had been to a doctor in Herne Bay who took a swab from his throat which was found to be positive. As a result of further swabbing two more cases were found in this family and two carriers. I visited the school on several occasions and took swabs from children. The school was closed for the day on May 7th by the managers and re-opened on the 10th so that all the children in attendance could be swabbed. It was then closed until after the Whitsuntide holidays, during which time a thorough disinfection and cleansing was carried out and the drains which had been found blocked were put in order. No children were allowed to return to school until they had been found free of infection as shown by swabs taken by me or by their own medical attendant, and, fortunately, from the time the school re-opened on May 31st no further cases occurred.

During the third quarter of the year seven cases of Diphtheria were notified, four of them apparently contracted the disease in Whitstable where they attended school. Another appeared to have become infected in a hop garden in the Faversham Rural District, and the infection in another case appeared to have been brought from the City of Canterbury.

In the third quarter a child of seven months was notified as a case of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis in the parish of Blean. She was removed to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital and subsequently died.

During the last quarter of the year two cases of acute Anterior Poliomyelitis occurred; one was notified on October 6th at Broomfield and was removed to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital the next day by the medical practitioner in attendance. Another was notified the same day at Beltinge. This child left London for a holiday there on the 28th September. On October 3rd she developed symptoms of the disease and so probably contracted it in London. She was isolated in the house where she was staying and removed to London on October 21st.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 29. Heart Disease was given as the cause of death in the largest number of cases, viz., 22. The number of deaths registered as being due to Cancer was 17. There were no deaths registered as being due to Diarrhœa under two years of age, nor did Puerperal Sepsis account for any deaths. Apart from the death from Poliomyelitis, mentioned above, there were no deaths registered as being due to what are called Infectious Diseases. Tuberculosis accounted for seven deaths.

## NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the months of January, February and March an outbreak of Measles occurred at St. Stephen's Council School.

## HOUSING.

No houses were erected by the Council in 1926, but they have under consideration a scheme for erecting four houses at May Street Cross in the parish of Reculver. No houses have been erected or any steps taken by the Council under the Act of 1924, but during 1926 seventy-seven houses were erected with the assistance of the subsidy provided by the Housing Act of 1923. The Minister of Health has sanctioned the Council's scheme for making advances under Sec. 92 of the Housing Act, 1925, for 44 agricultural type of houses, four in each parish, two bedrooms and no bathroom, the cost not exceeding £450, and also 50 houses of the larger type, the cost not exceeding £600. For the above figures I am indebted to the Surveyor.

The number of Closing orders made during the last three years were eight.

1924.	1, Bridge Cottages, Marshside, Chislet.	House demolished and new bungalow erected in its place.
1925.	Forge Cottage, Swalecliffe.	Still occupied.
1926.	Nos. 1 to 6, Daisy Cottages, Marshside, Chislet.	The last of the tenants was evicted just before Christmas. The owner proposes to reconstruct and convert into three dwellings.

## SCHOOLS.

The condition of the elementary schools with the exception of Reculver Church of England School has remained unaltered. At this school a new cloakroom was added at a cost of £64. The managers of the school received a grant of £20 from the Kent Diocesan Education Authority and a further £15 was raised by the teachers at the school, the balance was obtained as a result of a sale of work.

The erection of a new school in the parish of Chislet has been under the consideration of the Kent Education Committee during the year and also of other bodies concerned.

A new school is to be erected for the parish of Hoath.

Also it is proposed to erect a new school in the parish of Blean.



## THE FOLLOWING IS THE REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

### WATER SUPPLY.

No large extensions of the public water mains have occurred during the year. Small extensions have been made in the parish of Whitstable-cum-Seasalter and in some places existing mains have been replaced by new and larger ones. Sixty-nine premises have been connected to the public mains, sixty-six of these being newly erected dwellings. The total number of houses now served by public supplies is 1,640. Twenty-nine samples of water were submitted for chemical analysis. These were divided into the following categories :—

Excellent organic quality	...	...	...	2
Good	„	„	...	2
Very fair	„	„	...	1
Fair	„	„	...	10
Polluted and unfit for drinking purposes	...	...	...	14

Two samples of water taken from a public supply were submitted for bacteriological examination in June and December. The one taken in the latter part of the year was not so satisfactory.

### SEWERAGE.

The construction of the sewer along Herne Bay Road and South Street in the parish of Whitstable-cum-Seasalter was commenced in the autumn. The length along the former road was practically completed at the end of the year. Two extensions of the sewers in the parish of Herne have been made, viz. : one at Herne Common and one at Beltinge. A small length of sewer has also been laid by the owner in a private street in the parish of Reculver to enable three dwellings in course of erection to be drained thereto.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The approximate numbers of each type of sanitary convenience in the district are :—

W.C.'s into drainage systems	...	...	...	721
W.C.'s into cesspools	...	...	...	524
Pail closets	...	...	...	1,191
Privies	...	...	...	15

### SCAVENGING.

The areas in which house refuse is collected remain the same as last year. At the latter part of the year a report was made to the Council on the need for a collection of house refuse to be made in the village of Upstreet. The views of the Parish Council have been asked for.

On July 13th F. Gregson Williams, Esq., M.I.C.E., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, held a public inquiry at the Club House, Chestfield, Whitstable-cum-Seasalter, into the Council's application for sanction to borrow the sum of £900 for the purchase of a Fordson Cesspool Exhauster. The ratepayers present were unanimously in favour of the scheme and the Minister's sanction was subsequently received. The vehicle reached Whitstable on the last day of the year. Arrangements have been made with various owners, at a slight cost, to provide land on which the contents of the tank can be deposited.



## INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

	Total No. of Inspections and re- inspections	Total No. of Notices Served.		Statutory complied with.	Informal complied with.
		Statutory.	Informal.		
Dwellings under P.H. Act ... ..	314	5	83	3	80
Dwellings under H. Act ... ..	125	7	28	7	25
Cowsheds ... ..	285	4	34	4	28
Slaughter Houses, etc....	86				
Bakehouses ... ..	20				
Factories and Workshops ... ..	38		2		1
Infectious Diseases Cases ... ..	102				
Water Supply to New Houses ... ..	105		5		5
Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	4				
Schools ... ..	21	1	5	1	4
Miscellaneous ... ..	24	3	11	3	11
Total ... ..	1,124	20	168	18	154

Number of complaints received ... .. 58

## PARTICULARS OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

Drainage systems tested ... ..	14
New drains provided ... ..	7
Defective drains and cesspools repaired ... ..	48
Blocked drains cleared ... ..	24
Pails converted into W.C.'s ... ..	3
Privies converted into pails ... ..	3
Houses connected to sewer ... ..	4
Dampness abated ... ..	14
New windows provided or repaired ... ..	13
New ceilings ... ..	6
Roofs repaired ... ..	12
New floors ... ..	15
New cooking ranges and coppers ... ..	5
Overcrowding abated ... ..	2
Water supplies improved ... ..	29
Dirty premises cleansed ... ..	2
Access to W.C. secured for sub-tenant ... ..	3

The one set of hopper huts in the district were inspected prior to the hop-picking season. As a result of an interview with the owner, additional lavatory accommodation was provided and the huts repaired and cleansed.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of premises on the register is as follows:—

Retail bakehouses (one factory) ... ..	9
Carpenters (four factories) ... ..	13
Motor repairing ... ..	6
Blacksmiths ... ..	6
Boot repairers ... ..	5
Laundries ... ..	2
Harness makers ... ..	2
Hurdle makers (one factory) ... ..	2
Plumbers ... ..	2
Gut scrapers ... ..	1
Fencing works ... ..	1
Colliery (factory) ... ..	1
Brick and pottery works (one factory) ... ..	2
Flour mills (factories) ... ..	2
Concrete, brick and tile works (factory) ... ..	1
Sausage factory ... ..	1

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	9	1	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	49	1	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises)	—	—	—
Total ... ..	58	2	—

## DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of defects			Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Insufficient Drainage ... ..	1	1	—	—
Sanitary accommodation ; Defective ... ..	1	—	—	—
Total ... ..	2	1	—	—

## SCHOOLS.

## PUBLIC ELEMENTARY.

*Chislet Church of England.*—This school is without any water supply, all the water for washing purposes being fetched from a neighbouring well.

*Herne Church of England.*—The money necessary for converting the pail closets into w.c.'s and connecting them to the sewer has not yet been raised.

*Westbere Church of England.*—The urinal accommodation is insufficient. The managers' attention has been drawn to this, but so far without result.

*St. Stephen's Council.*—Defects developed in the cesspools at this school in December. The Education Committee's attention was drawn to these and repairs carried out during the Christmas holidays.

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total ... ..	79
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(1) By Local Authority ... ..	Nil
(2) By other bodies or persons ... ..	68



## 1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ...	169
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations ... ..	34
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	1
(4) Number of dwelling houses (excluding those referred to in Paragraph 3) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation ... ..	124

## 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers (including ten standing over from last year) ... ..	115
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## 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A.—*Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices (including one from last year) by owners ... ..	2
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	Nil

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	5
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners ... ..	3
(b) By Local Authority ... ..	Nil

C.—*Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Acts, 1925.*

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders ... ..	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made ... ..	6
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing Orders were determined ... ..	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ..	1
(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... ..	1

Representations made at the end of 1925.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

At the end of the year 51 persons were registered as purveyors and 100 as producers of milk.

The premises and methods of production of one cowkeeper in the parish of Sturry were very unsatisfactory and formed the subject of a report to the Council. A formal notice was served on the cowkeeper calling upon her to reconstruct the buildings and to adopt certain measures to prevent the contamination of milk. As a result the buildings were demolished and the business given up.

Notice was also served upon another cowkeeper to provide new sheds at his premises at Marshside. New buildings were erected during the year. Improvements at many premises have been carried out during the year, not only as regards the structures but in the methods of production. A sterilizer has been installed at one dairy with satisfactory results.

The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, came into operation on the 1st October. Prior to this date a precis of the Order drawn up by the Medical Officer of Health was printed and a copy sent to each person on the register.

The dairymen generally throughout the district have approved of the Order, and I have not received a single complaint that any undue hardship will result.

Eight samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year.

Number of samples	...	...	...	...	...	8
Over 200,000 bacteria per cc.	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Under 20,000 bacteria per c.c.	...	...	...	...	...	3
Under 30,000 bacteria per cc.	...	...	...	...	...	6
B. Coli present in 1/100 cc. in 48 hours	...	...	...	...	...	3
B. Coli present in 1/10 cc. in 48 hours	...	...	...	...	...	3

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL'S SLAUGHTER-HOUSE ORDER  
AND THE

## PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924.

There are five slaughter-houses in the district.

Registered	...	2	Licensed	...	3
------------	-----	---	----------	-----	---

Only three of these premises have been used during the year, and at two only pigs are slaughtered.

The amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was 8cwt.

## PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED.

There are nine bakehouses in use in the district. One has had a boarded ceiling provided which was formerly open to the floor above.

Three fish shops are situated in the district at which fried fish is sold. No complaints as to any nuisance arising were received.

The sausage factory has generally been kept in a satisfactory condition. The drainage, however, was found to be defective and new drains and cesspool were constructed during the year.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action had to be taken during the year with reference to nuisances caused by smoke.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.



**HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.**

Area (excluding water)	...	...	...	...	887 acres
Population (Census 1911)	...	...	...	...	7,781
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	11,872
Population, 1926 (R.G.)	...	...	...	...	11,020
Population (estimated 1926)	...	...	...	...	14,000
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,285
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,571
Rateable Value of the Urban District	...	...	...	...	£83,036
Amount produced by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£330

## Adoptive Acts in force :

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.

Private Streets Works Act, 1892.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. (Parts 2 to 10 inc.)

Public Health Act, 1925.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Act.

Special Local Order for the notification of Measles and German Measles dated 3rd March, 1926.

Cost of Out-Relief in the Urban District for the year ended 31st March, 1927, was £496 3s. 6d.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

<i>Births</i>	Male	45	(Legitimate 41, Illegitimate 4)
	Female	56	(Legitimate 50, Illegitimate 6)
	Total	101	

Birth Rate (R.G.) 9.16.      Birth Rate (E. and W.), 17.8.

<i>Deaths</i> (Civilians only)	Male	51
	Female	95
	Total	146

Death Rate (R.G.), 13.24      Death Rate (E. and W.), 11.6.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :

From Sepsis, —

From other causes, —

*Deaths of Infants under one year—*

Legitimate (Male)	4	Illegitimate (Male)	—
Legitimate (Female)	2	Illegitimate (Female)	—
Total	6		

Infant Mortality Rate :—      (England and Wales) 70

Total, 59 per 1,000 registered births.

Legitimate, 59 per 1,000 registered births.

Illegitimate, — per 1,000 registered births.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), —.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), —.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), —.

## HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

		Nett Birth Rate.		Nett Death Rate.		Infant Mortality Rate.
1920	...	19.44	...	10.77	...	84
1921	...	13.72	...	11.15	...	100
1922	...	12.3	...	11.5	...	56
1923	...	10.99	...	9.5	...	18
1924	...	11.18	...	10.99	...	61
1925	...	11.2	...	11.87	...	59
1926	...	9.16	...	13.24	...	59

## ENGLAND AND WALES.

1920	...	25.4	...	12.4	...	80
1921	...	22.4	...	12.1	...	83
1922	...	20.6	...	12.9	...	77
1923	...	19.7	...	11.6	...	69
1924	...	18.8	...	12.2	...	75
1925	...	18.3	...	12.2	...	75
1926	...	17.8	...	11.6	...	70

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE HERNE BAY URBAN  
DISTRICT 1926.

MALES. FEMALES.

Civilians only.	All Causes.	...	...	...	51	95
1. Enteric fever	...	...	...	...		
2. Small-pox	...	...	...	...		
3. Measles	...	...	...	...		
4. Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...		
5. Whooping cough	...	...	...	...		
6. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...		
7. Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	2
8. Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...		1
9. Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...	...		
10. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	
11. Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...		1
12. Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	12	20
13. Rheumatic fever	...	...	...	...		
14. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	2	1
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	4	2
16. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	5	27
17. Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	5	5
18. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	4
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	4	4
20. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...		
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	2	1
22. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...		
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	...		1
24. Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...		
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	1	2
26. Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...		
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...	...		
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	3	2
29. Suicide	...	...	...	...		
30. Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...		4
31. Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	10	17
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...		1



## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1926.

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	19	15	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	11	11	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	1	1	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	20	—	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1	1	—
Malarial Fever	...	...	...	1	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	18	—	—
German Measles	...	...	...	2	—	—
Total	...	...	...	73	28	8

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No. of cases notified—1. No. treated in hospital—Nil. No. recovered with vision unimpaired—1.

## CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFED DURING THE YEAR 1926 IN THE HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...				1	2	10	5			1		
Diphtheria ...						6	5					
Puerperal Fever ...								1				
Pneumonia ...		3		1		2		1	4	1	6	2
Puerperal Pyrexia.									1			
Malarial Fever ...						1						
Measles ...			1	1	2	8	2	3	1			
German Measles...							1		1			
Total ...		3	1	3	4	27	13	5	7	2	6	2

## CASES ADMITTED TO SEA STREET HOSPITAL

During the years 1920 to 1926 inclusive.

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Total.	No. of days under treatment.
1920 ...	4	18	22	1,050
1921 ...	9	10	19	732
1922 ...	5	4	9	543
1923 ...	3	5	8	308
1924 ...	2	9	11	449
1925 ...	—	8	8	347
1926 ...	7	5	12	406

## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..								
1 ... ..			1					1
5 ... ..			2					
10 ... ..								
15 ... ..		2						
20 ... ..		2						
25 ... ..	1	1						
35 ... ..	3			1				
45 ... ..		1			1			
55 ... ..	2		1					
65 and upwards								
Totals ... ..	6	6	4	1	1			1

In addition to the above new cases there was one (Tubercular Enteritis) aged 4 which was not notified, but which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the death returns.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for use in necessitous cases, in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910.". A supply is kept at the office of the Sanitary Inspector.

As far as is known, no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever in the district.

No primary or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917, during the past year.

In the event of a case of infectious disease being notified among the scholars attending the Council School the head teacher is informed, and the Medical Officer of Health is notified by the head teacher of the occurrence of any suspicious symptoms among the children and of any absentees with suspicious symptoms.

Facilities are available for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings at the Blean Poor Law Institution. Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. He describes his method of disinfection as follows: For fumigation, formaldehyde is employed, MacDougall's Vap lamps being used for the purpose. Two lamps are used in an ordinary sized rooms (*i.e.*, approx. 1000 c.f.), which allows ample margin for escape. The rooms are always carefully sealed. Schoolrooms, public buildings, empty houses or large rooms where fumigation would be ineffective are sprayed with "Izal" solution 1 in 160. Rooms infested with vermin are fumigated with sulphur candles.



Bedding and clothing is passed through the Thresh Current Steam Disinfector at the Union Workhouse. The apparatus is old, and doubts have been expressed as to its efficiency. The jacket is heated with steam from the workhouse boilers, and a temperature of 212 is obtained in the chamber. The necessity of disinfection of bedding following cases of cancer, consumption, etc., as well as the ordinary infectious diseases, is now widely recognised, and the use of this disinfector by the Council increases every year. A charge of 10s. is made by the Guardians each time it is used.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor has it been necessary for the Council to take any action under the Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

There are two retailers of "Certified Milk" in the Urban District who are licensed by the Council.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the first quarter of the year twelve cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and two of Diphtheria. Four of the cases of Scarlet Fever occurred among the patients of St. Anne's Convalescent Home. They were removed to the hospital of the Metropolitan Asylums Board by motor ambulance. The other cases occurred in private houses, four were removed to Sea Street Hospital. Three cases of Scarlet Fever and the two of Diphtheria were children attending the elementary schools. I visited the schools and on one occasion took nine swabs of contacts of a case of Diphtheria, but the reports were all negative and there was no further spread of the complaint.

During the second quarter, one case of Diphtheria and three of Scarlet Fever were notified. The case of Diphtheria occurred in a private family and was removed to the Isolation Hospital of the Blean Rural District Council. Two of the cases of Scarlet Fever occurred at St. Anne's Home and were removed by ambulance to the hospital of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. The third case of Scarlet Fever occurred in a private family and was removed to the Sea Street Hospital. As a result of representations made by the Council to the Metropolitan Asylums Board in 1924 that body decided to provide an isolation ward of six beds at St. Anne's Convalescent Home for the accommodation of cases of illness in which the diagnosis was doubtful. The work was completed in the summer of last year.

During the third quarter of the year four cases of Diphtheria were notified and removed to the Sea Street Hospital and two cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and removed to the Isolation Hospital of the Blean R.D.C. The source of infection in two of the cases of Diphtheria appeared to have been in a hop garden in the Faversham Rural District, where relatives of the patients belonging to the Blean and Whitstable districts employed in the same hop garden were found to be suffering from the disease. The source of infection in the other two cases could not be traced, but there were unsatisfactory sanitary conditions in each house occupied by the patients.

During the last quarter four cases of Diphtheria and two of Scarlet Fever were notified. One of the cases of Diphtheria occurred in St. Anne's Home and was removed to the hospital of the Metropolitan Asylums Board. As a result of swabbing the contacts, two carriers were found and they were also removed. Two other cases occurred in one house where there was overcrowding and the drains were in a defective condition.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of deaths exceeded the number of births, which is not unusual in a seaside watering place. Cancer and Heart Disease caused the largest and an equal number of deaths, viz., 32. Encephalitis Lethargica was given as the cause of one death, otherwise there were no deaths attributed to what are called Infectious Diseases. There were no deaths from Diarrhoea under two years of age, nor were any deaths registered due to Puerperal Sepsis. Tuberculosis was the cause of only two deaths.

## NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

An outbreak of Whooping Cough took place in December among the children attending the Infant Department of the Council School.

## HOUSING.

Five houses erected by the Council in Park-road were commenced in November, 1925, and occupied in July, 1926. These were built under the Housing Act, 1923.

The Council is erecting eighty-two houses in Spenser-road, eighteen of parlour type and sixty-four non-parlour type. The total number of houses erected in the district during the year ended 31st December was 125. The number of houses acquired under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act was 51.

For the above figures I am indebted to the Surveyor.

The number of closing orders made during the last three years was four.

April, 1924.	Sea Street Cottage.	House vacated January, 1927.
	Closing Order made on declaration of owner.	

May, 1926.	1 and 2, Little William Street.	House vacated.
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May, 1926.	7, King Street.	House still occupied. Will be vacated on completion of house now in course of erection for tenant.
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## PUBLIC LAVATORIES.

The new public lavatory on the Sea Front for women was completed and opened during the year 1926. The men's lavatory adjoining was enlarged and reconstructed. Lavatories were also erected in the Memorial Park in connection with the refreshment room.

## SCAVENGING.

In my quarterly report to the Council in October I brought to their notice the necessity of all houses in the district being provided with sanitary dustbins and also the desirability of the Council using carts for the purpose of refuse removal which are supplied with covers and the sides of which are low. I had reported on this matter to the Public Health Committee in May, 1923. Complaints were made during the year of nuisance arising through the deposit of house refuse collected in Herne Bay in the adjoining Blean Rural District, and it is very desirable that the Urban District should provide a refuse destructor. It is satisfactory to note that a daily removal of house refuse is carried out in the Urban District, but the other points I have mentioned need serious consideration if the public health of the district is to be maintained at a high standard.



## SCHOOLS.

There is nothing special to report with regard to the sanitary condition of the elementary schools.

## METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS.

The total amount of sunshine recorded at the Pier during the year was 1,583.15 hours.

The rainfall recorded at the Council's Pumping Station was 28.50 inches.

## WATER SUPPLY.

A very interesting and satisfactory point in connection with the reports on the chemical analysis of the water supplied by the Herne Bay Water Company is the fact that during a period of twenty years there has been a very slight variation in the chlorine present. In the sample taken for examination in April, 1907, there were 12.6 parts per 100,000, and the report on the sample examined in February, 1927, was the same. Between these dates the highest figure was 13.5 in January, 1911, and August, 1925, and the lowest 12.4 in February, 1913, November, 1920, and May, 1925.

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The following is the report of the Sanitary Inspector :—

## WATER.

The public water supply continues to be abundant and of good quality, as shown by the periodical analysis. There are no changes to report during the year.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A scheme of separate surface water drainage has been adopted by the Council, and a section of the work was in course of construction at the close of the year.

Only one house in the district is not connected with the main sewerage system.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

As previously reported, water closets are general throughout the district. New Byelaws with respect to New Streets and Buildings were adopted during the year, which contain a useful clause requiring water closets to be supplied with a sufficient quantity of water for flushing, whether constructed before or after the Byelaw came into force.

## SCAVENGING.

At the close of the year the matter of the collection of house refuse was under consideration by the Public Health Committee, together with the desirability of enforcing the provision of proper receptacles for refuse at dwelling houses.

A new site for the deposit of house refuse has been obtained in the adjoining rural district, situated two miles from the town.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Classified statement of the number of premises visited, defects and nuisances discovered, and the action and result of action taken in regard to these.

(a) The number and nature of Inspections made during the year :—

Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	316
Inspection of works required by notice	...	...	...	...	...	96
Re-inspections and following-up visits	...	...	...	...	...	331
Visits and enquiries <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	142
Miscellaneous inspections and visits	...	...	...	...	...	178
Slaughter-houses and meat inspections	...	...	...	...	...	450
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	62
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	42
Other food preparing places	...	...	...	...	...	82
Factories, workshops and workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	109
Stables, mews, etc	...	...	...	...	...	35
Common lodging-house	...	...	...	...	...	6
Holiday camps	...	...	...	...	...	19
Under Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	...	...	...	23
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	...	11
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1,902

(b) The number of notices served :—

Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	31
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	157
Total	...	...	...	...	...	188

(c) The result of service of such notices :—

Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	18
Interior repairs, number of dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	36
Exterior repairs, number of dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	21
Leaky roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	28
Eaves guttering and downspouting defects rectified	...	...	...	...	...	46
Defects causing damp (want of damp course, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	18
House drainage defects rectified	...	...	...	...	...	137
Water closets and sanitary fittings	...	...	...	...	...	128
Yards paved, or paving renewed	...	...	...	...	...	19
Premises cleansed and whitewashed	...	...	...	...	...	24
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	31
Nuisances arising from the keeping of animals abated	...	...	...	...	...	7
Overcrowding cases dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sinks repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	25
Total	...	...	...	...	...	562
Number of complaints registered and investigated	...	...	...	...	...	105
Number of drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	39

A special inspection of Hotels, Refreshment houses, Boarding-houses and Inns was made during the year, resulting in the discovery and rectification of a large number of sanitary defects. Attention was given to the washing-up arrangements in public-house bars, and in three instances there was a complete absence, and in eight instances the existing facilities were insufficient. Considerable improvements resulted from the inspection. This matter arose from a complaint made of the inadequate washing of glasses at a public-house which was frequented by two men who were known to be suffering from cancer of the throat.

A feature of the year's work was the large number of combined house drainage systems which came under review. At the close of the year five defective systems, involving the drainage of 39 houses, were under the consideration of the Public Health Committee.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

Number of patients removed to hospital :—

*To Sea Street Hospital,*

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	5	
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	7	
					—	12

*To Blean Isolation Hospital,*

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	4	
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	3	
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	2	
					—	9

*To M.A.B. Hospitals (from St. Anne's Homes),*

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	6	
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	3	
					—	9

Total No. patients removed ...	30
--------------------------------	----

## DISINFECTION.

Number of houses disinfected ...	65
Number of batches of bedding, etc., disinfected (by steam disinfectant at Union) ...	46
Parcels of bedding destroyed by fire ...	4

## DISINFESTATION.

Number of houses at which action was taken ...	3
--	---

The investigations following the notification of infectious disease proved, beyond doubt, that two cases of Scarlet Fever resulted from exposure to sewer effluvia; and three cases of Diphtheria occurred at houses where the drainage was ultimately found (on examination under Sec. 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875) to be in a most foul and defective state.

## HOUSING.

## STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1926.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under b) ...	130
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(1) By the Local Authority ...	5
(2) By other bodies or persons ...	75

## 1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

*Inspection.*

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	316
(2) Number of houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations, 1925 ...	88
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	6

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	120
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## 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	95
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## 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

### A.—*Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ... ..	1

### B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts :*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	28
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ... ..	19
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

C.— <i>Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925</i> ... ..	Nil
--	-----

A special report on Housing Conditions in the Urban District was made in January, since when the Council have proceeded with a housing scheme, and at the close of the year 80 houses were in course of erection. This provision of accommodation will relieve the overcrowding which exists in the district and enable some of the old and dilapidated houses to be closed.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### (a) MILK SUPPLY.

Special attention has been given during the year to Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops. The requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, have been made known to all the persons registered. At the close of the year

4 Cowkeepers,  
11 Dairymen,  
11 Retailers of Milk

were registered. (The latter are persons retailing milk whose premises are outside the Urban area.) 62 inspections of cowsheds and dairies were made, and in seven instances action was taken in respect of breach of regulations.

### (b) MEAT, ETC.

Number of slaughter-houses in district. Total 3

Licensed ... ..	1
Registered ... ..	2



Number of notices of slaughter received	...	...	476
Number of animals slaughtered	...	...	1,618
Number of visits to slaughter houses and retail meat shops			450
Number of carcasses and organs inspected (approx.)	...		1,400
Number of cases of diseased or unsound meat	...	...	12
Weight of meat condemned and voluntarily surrendered			3cwt. 1qr.

*Administration of Meat Regulations, 1924.*

In one instance action was taken in respect of the direct communication of a water closet with a grocer's storehouse, and structural alteration was made.

(c) BAKEHOUSES.

The 15 bakehouses in the district are periodically inspected, and 42 inspections were made. The following nuisances were found and abated :

Want of cleanliness (neglect of whitewashing)	...	...	4
Sanitary defects	...	...	4

(d) OTHER FOOD PREPARING PLACES.

These include fish friers, ice-cream makers, sausage makers, cooked meat shops, etc., 19 places being entered on the register. 82 visits were made, special attention being given to the cleanliness and suitability of the premises.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Number of inspections made during the year (including bakehouses)	...	...	...	...	151
Number of written notices served	...	...	...		14
Nuisances dealt with :					
Want of ventilation	...	...	...	...	1
Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	7
Insufficient closet accommodation	...	...	...	...	3
Defective sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	12
Other nuisances	...	...	...	...	2

**BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.**

Area (excluding water)	...	...	...	...	2,767 acres
Population (Census 1911)	...	...	...	...	8,929
Population (Census 1911) as adjusted for increase in area in 1914	...	...	...	...	9,921
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	15,471
Population 1926 (R.G.)	...	...	...	...	11,390
Population 1926 (estimated)	...	...	...	...	19,215
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,556
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£132,503
Amount produced by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£504
Structurally separate dwellings (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,388

Adoptive Acts in force in the district :

Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Parts 2, 3 and 4.

Private Streets Works Act, 1892.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

Parts 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 (with the exception of Secs. 15, 16, 18, 27, 32, 34, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 52, 54 and 94).

Local Acts in force in the district :

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Water and Improvement Act, 1901.  
 Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Water Act, 1907.  
 Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1913.  
 Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1923.

*Poor Law.*

Cost of out-relief for the parish of St. Peter during the year ended 31st March, 1927, £894 19s. 11d.

# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

*Births*      Male    48 (Legitimate 44, Illegitimate 4)  
                  Female 53 (Legitimate 48, Illegitimate 5)

---

Total 101

Birth Rate (R.G.), 8.86

Birth Rate (E. and W.), 17.8.

*Deaths* (Civilians only)    Male    52  
    Female 69

---

Total 121

Death Rate (R.G.), 10.62.

Death Rate (E. and W.), 11.6.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :

From Sepsis —

From other causes —

*Deaths of Infants under one year.*

Legitimate (Male)	Nil	Illegitimate (Male)	Nil
Legitimate (Female)	3	Illegitimate (Female)	Nil

Infant Mortality Rate :—

(England and Wales) 70

Total : 29 per 1,000 registered births.

Legitimate 29

Illegitimate Nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Nil.

## BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

		Nett Birth Rate.		Nett Death Rate.		Infant Mortality Rate.
1922	...	12.01	...	10.39	...	22
1923	...	11.45	...	9.55	...	47
1924	...	10.95	...	11.92	...	56
1925	...	9.13	...	11.43	...	67
1926	...	8.86	...	10.62	...	29

## — ENGLAND AND WALES.

1922	...	20.6	...	12.9	...	77
1923	...	19.7	...	11.6	...	69
1924	...	18.8	...	12.2	...	75
1925	...	18.3	...	12.2	...	75
1926	...	17.8	...	11.6	...	70



CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S  
URBAN DISTRICT, 1926.

					MALES.	FEMALES.
Civilians only. All Causes ... ..					52	69
1.	Enteric Fever	...	...	...		
2.	Small-pox	...	...	...		
3.	Measles	...	...	...	1	
4.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...		
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...		
6.	Diphtheria	...	...	...		
7.	Influenza	...	...	...	2	1
8.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...		1
9.	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...		
10.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	7	3
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...		2
12.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	5	20
13.	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...		1
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	3	1
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	..	...	...	2	5
16.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	6	9
17.	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	1	2
18.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	2
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	3	2
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...		
21.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...		
22.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...		
23.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...		
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...		
25.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	3	2
26.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...		
27.	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...		
28.	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	...		1
29.	Suicide	...	...	...	2	
30.	Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	...	1	1
31.	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	15	16
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...		

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1926.

Disease.					Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	35	29	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	11	10	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	36	—	5
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	4	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	2	—	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	29	1	1
Polio-Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	33	8	3
Chicken Pox...	...	...	...	...	56	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	207	48	10

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR  
1926 IN THE BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 Year.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever ...				3	2	18	10		1	1		
Diphtheria ...				2	1	4	1	1	2			
Enteric Fever (including Para- typhoid) ...												
Puerperal Pyrexia									1			
Pneumonia ...	3		3		2	7	1	2	3		6	9
Erysipelas ...							1				1	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	2											
Poliomyelitis ...		1	1	1		14	9	3				
Polio - Encephali- tis ...				1	2	6	18	1	5			
Chicken-pox ...	1	2		2		19	29	1	2			
Total ...	6	3	4	9	7	68	69	8	14	1	7	11

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...								1
1 ...								
5 ...			5	2				
10 ...		1	1	2				
15 ...		1						
20 ...	1	1						
25 ...	1	2	1			1		
35 ...	4			1	3			1
45 ...	3	1			2			
55 ...	2	3		1	2	1		
65 and upwards						1		
Total ...	11	9	7	6	7	3		2

In addition to the above new cases were two (Pulmonary) which were not notified, but which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the death returns or other ways, aged 38 years and six months.

PREVALENCE, AND CONTROL, OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910." A supply is kept at the office of the Sanitary Inspector and at the Police Station.



As far as is known, no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever respectively in the Urban District.

No primary or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917 during the past year.

In the event of a case of infectious disease being notified among the scholars attending a public elementary school the head teacher concerned is informed by the Medical Officer of Health and the head teachers keep him informed of any children with suspicious symptoms attending their schools. Children who have been suffering from infectious disease or contacts with them are not allowed to return to school without a certificate from the Medical Officer of Health given under Sec. 57 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

There are no facilities for the cleansing of verminous persons in the district, but their belongings can be disinfected in the Steam Disinfector. The disinfection of premises exposed to infection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

The method adopted by the Sanitary Inspector is described by him as follows: In the case of dwelling houses, infected rooms are sealed up for at least six hours and Salus formalin lamps are burnt in the rooms. They are then opened and bedding, carpets, rugs, curtains, towels, etc., are removed for steam disinfection. The gummed paper is cleaned off and the floor scrubbed with soap and disinfectant.

In the case of schools and similar buildings, hospital wards, etc., these are sprayed with soap and disinfectant solution. A liberal quantity is used and the wet surfaces are afterwards sponged and mopped over.

With regard to books, valuable wearing apparel, and feather goods, they are hung opened out in the disinfector and a Kerol formigator used. The action of the formigator is to release the formalin gas by the action of permanganate of potash or liquid formalin.

All books, toys and school utensils of little value are burnt.

There was one "return case" of Scarlet Fever during the year.

The order under which Chicken Pox was made notifiable in the Urban District terminated on September 29th. A new one was made and came into force on November 1st.

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the first quarter nine cases of Scarlet Fever, three of Diphtheria and one of Encephalitis Lethargica were notified. All the cases of the two first-named diseases were removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital. One of the cases of Scarlet Fever had been ill for three weeks in London and arrived in the district in the peeling stage and with a discharging ear.

In the second quarter two cases of Diphtheria and ten of Scarlet Fever were notified.

During the third quarter five cases of Diphtheria, eight of Scarlet Fever and one of Encephalitis Lethargica were notified. Four of the cases of Scarlet Fever and three of Diphtheria occurred in convalescent homes.

During the last quarter the following cases were notified: Diphtheria 1, Scarlet Fever 8, Polio-Encephalitis 33, Poliomyelitis 29. In one convalescent home three cases of Scarlet Fever and in another four cases. During this quarter the district unfortunately was visited by an outbreak of Infantile Paralysis. The first notifications were received by the Medical Officer of Health on October 14th, eight of cases in a private boarding school for boys, one in an adjoining private school for girls, and four in

the town, two attending two private day schools. Cases continued to be notified until by the 29th October 62 notification certificates had been received. One of these was afterwards withdrawn and an additional notification was received on November 11th, making a total of 62. In addition to these cases two boys attending the private school first affected who were removed to their homes afterwards developed the complaint and one of them died, a young man aged 22 who left the town on October 6th developed the disease on the 16th and died in a London hospital on the 21st; a young woman, aged 29, who stayed in Broadstairs from the 2nd to the 9th October, was taken ill on the 16th and died on the 22nd. Also there was the case of a young man who, after staying in Broadstairs for three weeks, left on the 11th October and was taken ill with the complaint on the 16th. It will thus be seen that the total number of cases in connection with the outbreak was not less than 67.

Owing to its reputation as a healthy seaside resort, there are many private boarding schools and day schools in the district, the population of these being about 1,150 children. The total number of private schools is about 26 (11 boarding schools for boys, 4 boarding schools for girls, 7 combined day and boarding schools, 4 day schools). Some 850 children attend the four elementary schools and 150 a secondary school provided by the Kent County Council at Ramsgate, where 800 children belonging to the four sanitary districts in the Isle of Thanet are educated. There are also some 13 convalescent homes with accommodation for about 900 persons, mainly children, and there are some holiday homes. The total number of private schools affected by the disease was 13. In these 35 children contracted the complaint, one mistress and two members of domestic staffs. In the Ramsgate Secondary School were three cases among the children attending from Broadstairs. In the Broadstairs Council School (Girls' and Infants' Departments) were two cases. In the St. Peter's Church of England School (Infants' Department) there was one case. In one convalescent home were five cases, two children and members of the staff, and in another convalescent home there was one case. In five boarding schools, with an attendance of 249 children, 23 cases were notified. In eight mixed boarding and day schools, with an attendance of 318, 15 cases were notified. On October 14th and five following days 31 cases were notified in twelve private schools.

Of the 62 cases notified, 12 did not attend school. They lived in 12 separate dwellings, and in 9 of these no other cases occurred. Twenty attended as day scholars, 24 were boarders, and 6 cases occurred in convalescent homes. The numbers notified between the following ages were :

Under 1 year	...	—	15 to 20	„	...	5
From 1 to 5 years	...	7	20 to 25	„	...	2
5 to 10	„	18	25 to 30	„	...	2
10 to 15	„	27	30 to 35	„	...	1
						—
Total						62
Number of males	...	38	Number of females	...		24

The number of cases in Boarding Schools were :—

	No. in Attendance.		Cases.
Boys	...	73	9 boys 1 staff
Girls	...	53	3 girls
Girls	...	74	2 girls 2 staff
Boys	...	21	5 boys
Boys	...	28	1 boy
		—	—
Total	...	249	23



The number of cases removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital was nine. Of these, 5 belonged to a convalescent home, 2 were on the staffs of two private boarding schools, and of the two others one attended the Ramsgate County School and the other the Broadstairs Elementary School.

Dates of onset of illness of cases notified.

October	4th	...	1	,,	18th	...	3
,,	5th	...	4	,,	19th	...	1
,,	10th	...	8	,,	20th	...	2
,,	11th	...	7	,,	21st	...	2
,,	12th	...	4	,,	22nd	...	3
,,	13th	...	8	,,	23rd	...	2
,,	14th	...	1	,,	24th	...	2
,,	15th	...	5	,,	25th	...	1
,,	16th	...	3	,,	26th	...	2
,,	17th	...	2	November	6th	...	1

The effect of climatic conditions on the causation of the disease is uncertain, but the weather during the month of September was exceptionally fine and warm and the following observations were taken at Greenwich Observatory. The mean temperature for the month was 61 degrees, which is three degrees above the normal. There were 15 days with the temperature above 70 degrees, and four days with the temperature above 80 degrees, the highest temperature in the shade was 88.2 degrees on September 19th. The rainfall for the month was 2.4 inches, and no rain fell for 16 consecutive days from September 8th to 23rd.

Enquiries were made as to whether any of the cases had been recently vaccinated. It was found, however, that this was not so.

It is an interesting fact that during the five years ended 1925 only two cases of the disease were notified in the Urban District and they occurred in that year, that no cases were notified during the year 1926 prior to October 14th, that no cases were notified during the first ten months of the year in the Borough of Margate, in the adjacent Rural District of the Isle of Thanet, and only two in the Borough of Ramsgate, and also that the outbreak did not spread to the surrounding districts.

The serious effect which is produced by an attack of Infantile Paralysis is the loss of power which results. Out of 62 cases notified in this outbreak, paralysis was noted in 33. As to how many of these patients will be permanently paralysed it is impossible to say.

Four deaths occurred out of the 62 cases notified, giving a mortality of 6.4 per cent., but if 67 cases are considered there were 7 deaths, giving a mortality of 10.4 per cent.

Special reports were written on the outbreak which were sent to the Ministry of Health, the County Council and the Urban District Council. Dr. A. S. MacNalty, a medical officer of the Ministry of Health, arrived in the district on 18th October and remained until the 22nd, carrying out investigations and giving advice and assistance during that time. All necessary steps were taken to deal with the outbreak, and the assistance of Dr. Warren, late Medical Officer of Health of Gillingham, was obtained for ten days. The parish church of St. Peter was disinfected, as was also the Public Library, the Broadstairs Council School and the Infant Department of St. Peter's Church of England School, which was closed for a week. One private school was closed at the middle of November owing to the fact that cases had occurred in it and parents had withdrawn their children. It was reopened in another town and carried on there for the remainder of the term.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

It will be noted that the number of deaths registered exceeded the number of births, so that if it were not that persons moved into the district to reside there the population would be decreasing instead of increasing. The disease causing the largest number of deaths was Cancer, which was responsible for 25 deaths, Heart Disease being the cause of the next largest number, namely, 15. There were no deaths from Diarrhœa under two years of age, and none from Puerperal Sepsis, which was satisfactory. There was one death from Measles, one from Encephalitis Lethargica, one from Poliomyelitis and three from Polio Encephalitis. Tuberculosis accounted for 12 deaths.

## VACCINATION.

The Vaccination Officer has kindly given me the following information: During the year ended 31st December, 1926, he received 69 certificates of successful Primary Vaccination of children under 14 years of age. During the same period 34 Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection were received. His return for the year 1925 showed 99 births returned by the Registrar as registered during 1925. (This total only includes cases where the child is still resident in the district when registered.) Of this number 61 have been successfully vaccinated, 30 exempted by Conscientious Objection Declaration, 4 dead unvaccinated, 1 still postponed by medical certificate, 2 cases removed (address unknown), and the remaining 1 was fined 10s. in June for non-compliance.

## WATER SUPPLY.

There is an efficient pumping plant at the Council's water works at Rumfields, and an elevated reservoir. The pumping installation provided consists of two Ruston and Hornsby's 3-cylinder heavy oil engines of 165 h.p., each with Mather and Platts high lift and deep well turbine pumps for raising the water from the Rumfields well and pumping plant for filling the elevated reservoir with softened water at the rate of 60,000 gallons per hour. There are two electric pumps for supplementing the supply to the softening plant. The buildings are lighted by electricity generated on the premises. An underground reinforced concrete tank of 300,000 gallons capacity is provided at the base of the concrete tower and at a height of 100 feet there is a concrete tank of 250,000 gallons capacity. The Haines water softening plant provides softened water. This was installed at the works in 1913, and reduces the hardness of the water from 21 degs. to 8 degs. The well from which the water is obtained is 170 feet deep, and the principal adit in the chalk extends in a north-westerly direction for a distance of about one mile. In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act which was passed in the year 1923 an agreement with the Corporation of the Borough of Margate was incorporated whereby it was agreed that for a period of fifty years the Urban District Council should be able to obtain a surplus supply of water from the Corporation's works at Wingham and that not less than 7,500,000 gallons per quarter should be taken and paid for at a rate which was inserted in the agreement. Chemical analysis is made each week of samples of water taken from the public supply. The reports invariably show the water to be organically pure and free from sewage percolation. The microscopical examination is also satisfactory. Samples are examined bacteriologically from time to time at the County Laboratory, the reports being good. The supply is constant. There are only two premises in the district which are not connected with the public mains.



## REFUSE REMOVAL.

House refuse is removed three days a week by the Council and is carted to a brick field at Westwood, where it is sorted, the paper being burnt, tins crushed, and the cinders used in the manufacture of bricks. This method of dealing with house refuse cannot be considered satisfactory, as it tends to cause the breeding of rats and flies, and I reported to the Council on the matter in November, 1923. The Council have under consideration the purchase of a site for a refuse destructor, which is a necessity in a growing urban district of the size of Broadstairs and St. Peter's.

## STEAM DISINFECTOR.

I mentioned in my last report that a new disinfector was required to replace the present Thresh disinfector, which has been in use for fourteen years. Last October the machine was found to be in such a condition as to be unfit for use, and during the period the outbreak of Infantile Paralysis lasted, when much disinfection of articles of bedding, etc., had to be carried out, it was necessary to make arrangements for the work to be done at Ramsgate, the steam disinfector belonging to the Corporation being lent to the Urban District Council for the purpose. Temporary repairs have been carried out to the steam disinfector, but the Council have resolved to purchase a new high pressure disinfector and an attempt is being made to obtain a suitable site for it in close proximity to the one where the refuse destructor is to be erected.

## PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The Council have resolved to build a new mortuary to replace the present one, which is inadequate for the needs of the district, and it is hoped that one will be erected on a site near the new steam disinfector.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

As a result of a recommendation made by me as to the need of more sanitary conveniences for visitors, the Council have decided to provide a ladies' lavatory in connection with the Droit Office near the pier. It is hoped that public lavatories will this year be erected in Louisa Gap.

## HOUSING.

As mentioned in my report for the year 1925, the Urban District Council commenced to build 44 houses on the Beacon Road site, a tender having been accepted for the sum of £22,412. By the end of the year 1926 the houses had been almost completed, and 36 were occupied. At a meeting of the Council held on 7th February, 1927, it was resolved that a further 36 non-parlour type houses should be erected on the Beacon Road site. Houses to the number of 16 were erected during the year with financial assistance by way of a subsidy under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1924. Under the Housing, etc., Act, 1923, 44 lump sum grants were issued from October, 1925, to February 3rd, 1927. The above figures were given to me by the Surveyor.

The total number of houses erected in the district during the year ended March 31st, 1927, was 187. For these figures I am indebted to the Rate Collector.

In my quarterly report to the Council in July, 1926, in dealing with the question of housing, I suggested that the Council should take into consideration the desirability of providing more houses, as progress was then being made with the Council's Housing Scheme for the erection of 44 houses, and wrote as follows: "In this connection it appears to be desirable that the matter should be considered with a view to the future development

of the district, and as it seems that private enterprise is not likely to adequately deal with the needs of the working class in the future, that it will be necessary for the Council to build a certain number of houses each year in order to provide for the natural increase in the population and to replace those old houses which have fallen into decay and have become unfit for habitation."

The number of Closing Orders made during the last three years was fifteen. They were in respect of the following premises :—

1924	30, Victoria Road, St. Peter's	Still occupied.
	32, Victoria Road, St. Peter's	Still occupied.
	43, Church Street, St. Peter's	Demolished by owner.
	45, Church Street, St. Peter's	Demolished by owner.
1925	3, Charlotte Street, Broadstairs	Vacated by tenant.
1926	19, York Street, Broadstairs	Vacated by tenant.
	(Basement flat)	
	2, Chandos Road, Broadstairs	Vacated by tenant.
	(Basement flat)	
	14, Victoria Parade, Broadstairs	Not now used as a
	(Basement flat).	separate dwelling.
	1, Trinity Square, Reading Street.	Vacated by tenant.
	47, Church Street, St. Peter's.	Demolished by owner.
	3, Trinity Square, Reading Street	Still occupied.
	28, Church Street, St. Peter's	Still occupied.
	4, Calva Cottages, St. Peter's.	Still occupied.
	3, St. John's Place, High Street,	Still occupied.
	St. Peter's.	
	Vine Cottage, Crow Hill.	Empty and being recon- structed.

In my quarterly report to the Council in April, I reported on the position with regard to the above-mentioned houses. In my quarterly report in January, 1927, I reported that six houses in which closing orders had been made were still occupied and the Council resolved to take legal proceedings if necessary to enforce the orders.

### SEWERAGE.

A system of main drainage for a portion of the present Urban District was provided about 30 years ago. The sewage flows by gravitation except in a small area near the harbour where it is raised by an Adams lift worked by compressed air. The whole of the sewage with the exception of the greater part of the surface water which is collected in soakaways is discharged untreated by an outfall sewer near the North Foreland.

In the year 1913 the Kingsgate and Westwood portions of the Urban District were taken over from the Isle of Thanet Rural District under the Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.C. Act of that year. The chief reason given at the time for this being done was the necessity of these two areas being sewered. This particularly applied to the Westwood area owing to the fact that the adits of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's water works at Rumfields are situated at Westwood and therefore it was very inadvisable that cesspools should exist in that neighbourhood. On June 8th an Enquiry was held at the Council Offices by Mr. F. O. Stanford, O.B.E., M.I.C.E., on behalf of the Ministry of Health, into the Urban District Council's application to borrow £110,700 for the carrying out of a drainage scheme adopted by the Council on the advice of their consulting engineer, Mr. Midgeley Taylor, who, as a result of float tests had recommended the construction of a screening chamber at the North Foreland, and the length-



ening of the present outfall sewer by 1,000 feet. The chamber to be 140 feet below the surface of the cliff. It was stated that an agreement had been arrived at by the Council with the Corporation of Margate that a screening chamber should be constructed in connection with the outfall sewer. Considerable opposition to the portion of the scheme concerned with the screening chamber appeared at the Enquiry, and at the time of writing the sanction of the Minister has not been given and the work in consequence has not been commenced.

The suggestion of those who opposed the Council's scheme was that the outfall sewer should be extended for 1,500 feet and the screening chamber omitted.

### METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS.

The total amount of sunshine recorded during the year was 1,659.6 hours.

The rainfall recorded was 24.65 inches.

The following is the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

### INSPECTION OF REGISTERED PREMISES.

	No. of visits in 1926.	No. of defects found.	No. of defects remedied
Bakehouses ... ..	9	4	4
Dairies and Milkshops ...	55	4	4
Cowsheds ... ..	21	4	3
Slaughter Houses ... ..	145	1	1
Other food preparing places	58	5	4
Factories ... ..	14	5	5
Workshops ... ..	12	2	2
Workplaces ... ..	68	6	6

### NUISANCES FOUND OR REPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

	No. investigated.	No. abated
Overcrowding ... ..	8	5
Offensive Trades ... ..	1	1
Keeping of Animals ... ..	14	11
Sanitary Accommodation ...	58	52
Drainage ... ..	85	72
Dustbins ... ..	13	11
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ...	6	6
Smoke Abatement ... ..	7	6
Others ... ..	143	122

Total number of visits during the year ... 1,509.

### NOTICES SERVED..

Statutory ... 21 Informal ... 237.

### DISINFECTION.

Number of houses disinfected ... ..	194
Number of batches of clothing disinfected ... ..	178

### FOOD.

Amount condemned during the year ... 10 cwts., 2 qrs., 14lbs.

### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

No. and description of samples.	Result of analysis.
7 ... Milk ... ..	Genuine
3 ... Butter ... ..	"
2 ... Margarine ... ..	"
2 ... Flour ... ..	"

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Offence.	Result.
1. Failing to abate a nuisance after notice.	Ordered to do the work and pay £1 13s. 6d. costs.
2. Failing to comply with the above order	Work done and case withdrawn on payment of costs, £1 13s. 0d.
3. Unlawfully using an underground bakehouse.	Fines 10s.

## HOUSING.

## 1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

*Inspection.*

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	284
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	37
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	10
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	109

## 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	97
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## 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

*A.—Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice—	
(a) By owners ...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	Nil

*B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice—	
(a) By owners ...	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

*C.—Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ...	10
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	10
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit ...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ...	Nil

Three demolished voluntarily.



*Number of new houses erected during the year.*

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	178
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts—						
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	36
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	54

*Shortage of housing accommodation for the working classes.*

## Extent of shortage—

(a) To replace unsatisfactory property	...	...	20
(b) To provide additional accommodation	...	...	40

REMARKS.—Local Authority's first contract for 44 houses is nearing completion. They are now proceeding with a second contract to build a further 36 houses.

## INSPECTION OF FOOD.

## MILK.

Three licences were issued by the Urban District Council during the year to retailers to sell milk as "Certified" and "Grade A," and one licence by the Ministry of Health to a producer of "Certified" milk. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health 11 samples of graded milk were taken and forwarded to the County Bacteriological Laboratory, Maidstone, for examination.

One new cowshed and dairy was erected and brought into use to replace unsatisfactory premises.

The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, came into operation on October 1st. This Order revokes the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders, 1885, 1886 and 1899, and contains new regulations for registration and for securing greater cleanliness in the production, storage and distribution of milk.

A circular explaining the new Order was drawn up by the Medical Officer of Health and copies were given to all persons engaged in the business when making inspections.

## MEAT.

Regular inspections were made of the slaughter houses and butchers' premises and they were found to be kept in good order.

On inspecting the carcase of one pig it was found to be affected with swine fever. The police and the Ministry of Agriculture were notified and the matter was dealt with by the police.

## ICE-CREAM.

The business of manufacturing ice-cream is rapidly increasing and greater attention has had to be paid to this work to ensure that a clean and wholesome article is supplied for consumption. At present there is no standard for the composition of ice-cream, but there is a movement on foot, and it is hoped that a standard will be laid down at an early date.

## SCHOOLS.

The attention of the managers was drawn to the condition of St. Peter's School and Trinity School, which resulted in the buildings being repaired and redecorated. In the main class-rooms of St. Peter's (Girls' and Infants') School the walls have been plastered. This is a very great improvement and has long been needed.

## RATS.

The number of complaints regarding rats is increasing.

The duty of exterminating rats is laid on the occupiers of lands and premises. In most cases where the vermin exist, two or more occupiers are affected, and it is seldom found possible to get all the people concerned to join in an effective combined action.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

With the exception of a few cottages on the outskirts and in the rural part of the district, the whole of the houses are provided with water closets with flushing cisterns.

**ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.**

Area (excluding water)	...	...	...	...	18,473 acres
Population 'Census 1911	...	...	...	...	12,920
Population (Census 1911) corrected for area transferred from Rural District since date of Census	...	...	...	...	10,564
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	14,085
Population 1926 (R.G.) For Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	14,150
For Death Rate	...	...	...	...	12,500
Population (estimated 1926)	...	...	...	...	16,207
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,488
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,470
Structurally separate dwellings occupied (1921)	...	...	...	...	2,344
Rateable Value of the Rural District	...	...	...	...	£125,877
Amount produced by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£469

## ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Secs. 23, 24, 45 and 49.

*Poor Law*.—Cost of out-relief for the Rural District during the year ended March 31st, 1927, was £1,096 2s. 8d.

*Sec. 44 of the P.H. Act, 1875.* This is in force in the following parishes :

Acol.	Minster.
Birchington.	St. Lawrence Extra.
Garlinge.	Stonar.

Westgate-on-Sea.

*P.H. Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907*, is in force in—

Sec. 83. Westgate-on-Sea.	Sec. 82. Westgate-on-Sea.
Sec. 21. „	Secs. 92 and 93 „
Sec. 94. „	Sec. 38. Minster.
Secs. 34 to 37 „	Sec. 51. Birchington and West-
and 38 to 50 inc.	gate.
Part 6. „	Part 4. Whole district.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

*Births* Male 83 (Legitimate 77, Illegitimate 6)  
Female 99 (Legitimate 92, Illegitimate 7)

Total 182

Birth Rate (R.G.), 12.86.

Birth Rate (E. and W.), 17.8.

*Deaths* (Civilians only) Male 57  
Female 66

Total 123

Death Rate (R.G.), 9.8.

Death Rate (E. and W.), 11.6.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth :

From sepsis, —

From other causes, —

*Deaths of Infants under one year.*

Legitimate (Male)	2	Illegitimate (Male)	2
Legitimate (Female)	2	Illegitimate (Female)	—
	<u>4</u>		<u>2</u>

Infant Mortality Rate :—

(England and Wales) 70

Total : 32 per 1,000 registered births.

Legitimate 21 Illegitimate 153

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), Nil.



## ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.

		Nett Birth Rate.		Nett Death Rate.		Infant Mortality Rate.
1920	...	24.29	...	11.05	...	34
1921	...	16.72	...	9.26	...	64
1922	...	15.11	...	14.2	...	27
1923	...	15.79	...	9.88	...	25
1924	...	10.91	...	9.87	...	47
1925	...	12.57	...	10.85	...	78
1926	...	12.86	...	9.8	...	32

## ENGLAND AND WALES.

1920	...	25.4	...	12.4	...	80
1921	...	22.4	...	12.1	...	83
1922	...	20.6	...	12.9	...	77
1923	...	19.7	...	11.6	...	69
1924	...	18.8	...	12.2	...	75
1925	...	18.3	...	12.2	...	75
1926	...	17.8	...	11.6	...	70

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT,  
1926.

MALES. FEMALES.

Civilians only.	All Causes	...	...	...	57	66
1. Enteric fever	..	...	...	...		
2. Small-pox	...	...	...	...		
3. Measles	...	...	...	...		
4. Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...		
5. Whooping cough	...	...	...	...		
6. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...		
7. Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	1
8. Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...		
9. Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...	...		
10. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	6	4
11. Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	2	2
12. Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	7	12
13. Rheumatic fever	...	...	...	...		
14. Diabetes	...	...	...	...		
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	2	7
16. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	8	10
17. Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	1	
18. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...		3
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	4	5
20. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	2	
22. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...		
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	...		
24. Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	1	1
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...		2
26. Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...		
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...	...		
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...		
29. Suicide	...	...	...	...		
30. Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	4	1
31. Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	17	17
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	1	

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ... ..	4	4	
Diphtheria ... ..	10	10	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid ...	2	1	
Pneumonia ... ..	6	—	9
Erysipelas ... ..	4	—	
Total ... ..	26	15	9

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number of cases notified ... ..	1
Number treated in hospital ... ..	Nil
Number of cases recovered with vision unimpaired ... ..	1

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR  
1926 IN THE ISLE OF THANET RURAL DISTRICT.

Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 year.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever ...						1		2	1			
Diphtheria ...				1		1	1	4	3			
Enteric Fever (including Para- typhoid ...									2			
Pneumonia ...										1	2	3
Erysipelas ...						1		1				2
Total ... ..				1		3	1	7	6	1	2	5

## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..								1
1 ... ..		1		2				
5 ... ..			3	1				
10 ... ..		1		3				
15 ... ..	1	5		1		1		
20 ... ..	2	3		2	1		1	
25 ... ..	1	2	1	1	1	2		
35 ... ..	7	1			1	1	1	
45 ... ..	1	1			2			1
55 ... ..				1				
65 and upwards					1			
Total ... ..	12	14	4	11	6	4	2	2

In addition to the above new cases there was one (Tubercular Meningitis, aged 48) which was not notified, but which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the death returns.



## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910.". A supply of anti-toxin is kept at the office of the sanitary inspector and also by a firm of chemists at their premises in Westgate and Birchington.

As far as is known, no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever respectively in the rural district.

No primary or revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox) Prevention Regulations, 1917, during the past year.

In the event of a case of infectious disease being notified, among the scholars attending a public elementary school, the head teacher concerned is informed by the Medical Officer of Health, and the head teachers keep him informed of any children with suspicious symptoms attending their schools. He visits the schools and takes any action which he considers necessary.

There are no facilities available for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings, other than for tramps at the Poor Law Institution, Minster. Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. He describes his method of disinfection as follows: "When disinfecting a room the windows are securely fastened and occasionally sealed with gummed paper, the fireplaces are stopped up by lowering the register or stuffing with sacking or paper, articles are hung about the room loosely, drawers and cupboards are opened; the walls, floor and articles are then sprayed with Formalin solution. A Sanitas Formalin Fumigator is then placed in a saucer or suitable receptacle, containing water, on the floor in the centre of the room; it is then lighted and the room vacated, the door and keyhole are then securely sealed on the outside.

Where bedding and clothing are removed for steam disinfection the room is fumigated on its return, so it is doubly disinfected. The process is as follows: The bedding is placed in the Disinfecting Van (used for infected and disinfected clothing), which is lined with zinc, and after removal to Minster, placed in a "Washington Lyon" Disinfector. It is subject to steam at about 30lbs. pressure for about half an hour; the steam is withdrawn; the articles partially dried and then withdrawn and returned to the house. During the process the van is washed out with solution of formalin."

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor has it been necessary for the Council to take any action under the Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the first quarter of the year seven cases of Diphtheria were notified, three of these were men belonging to the Royal Air Force stationed at Manston. They were removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital. The Senior Medical Officer of the camp, in consultation with me, took all necessary steps to deal with the outbreak, which, fortunately, did not spread. Two cases of Diphtheria occurred among the staff of the Joint Hospital, and the remaining two cases notified occurred among private residents and they were removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital for isolation and treatment.

During the second quarter, two cases of Diphtheria were notified, one occurred in a private family, the infection probably imported from London and did not spread. The other case was a member of the staff of the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital. A case of Typhoid was also notified, a man belonging to the R.A.F. stationed at Manston. He was removed to the Joint Hospital for isolation.

During the third quarter, the only case of notifiable disease was one of Typhoid Fever, the infection in this case was undoubtedly contracted outside the district.

During the last quarter, one case of Diphtheria and three cases of Scarlet Fever were notified.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 59 which may be considered very satisfactory. Cancer was the cause of the largest number of deaths, viz., 19, but the number of deaths due to Heart Disease was nearly the same, being 18. There were no deaths from Diarrhœa under two years of age, nor were there any deaths from Puerperal Sepsis. There were no deaths registered as having been due to what are called Infectious Diseases. Tuberculosis accounted for 14 deaths.

### SCHOOLS.

During the year the managers of the Birchington Church of England School had under consideration the question of the repair of the Boys' Department. The condition of the building and the playground of the girls' and boys' departments have been reported upon adversely from time to time for many years past; an attempt is being made by the managers to raise the sum of £600 to pay for the necessary work. There is nothing special to report with regard to other elementary schools in the Rural District.

The number of Closing Orders made during the last three years was thirteen. They were in respect of the following premises :—

1924	1, Chapel Yard, Margate Road, Birchington	Vacated by tenant. Demolition now being considered
1925	Jessamine Cottage, Acol	Vacated by tenant. Reconstruction being considered
	1, Eden Cottages, Margate Road, Birchington	Vacated by tenant
	2, Eden Cottages, Margate Road, Birchington	Still occupied.
	Eden House, Margate Road, Birchington	Vacated by tenant
	7, Walters Hall Cottages, Monkton	Vacated by tenant. Repairs being carried out
	8, Walters Hall Cottages, Monkton.	Still occupied
	No. 1, The Almshouses, Park Lane, Birchington	Still occupied
	No. 2, The Almshouses, Birchington.	Vacated by tenant
	No. 3, The Almshouses, Birchington.	Still occupied
	No. 4, The Almshouses, Birchington	Vacated by tenant
1926	Inglewood House, High Street, Minster	Still occupied
	Church Cottage, Canterbury road, Birchington	Vacated by tenant



## WESTGATE-ON-SEA.

The Civil Parish, which forms part of the Rural District of the Isle of Thanet, was formed in the year 1894 from portions of the parishes of St. John (Margate), Acol and Minster. It is situated on the north side of the Isle of Thanet and adjoins the west boundary of the Borough of Margate.

Although included in the area under the control of the Isle of Thanet Rural District Council, the local administration of the parish is in the hands of the Parish Council and the Parochial Committee of the Rural District Council, which is formed of the three Rural District Councillors of the parish and the eleven Parish Councillors for the time being. This Committee have practically all the powers of an Urban District Council, and in carrying out their duties have little or no interference from the R.D.C. The sanction of the Council must, however, be obtained for the institution of legal proceedings and the spending of money. The rate-payers thus have all the advantages of an Urban District Council without the expense of one. The Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector of the Rural District attend the meetings of the Parochial Committee and the Clerk of the Rural District Council acts as Clerk. Powers delegated by the Isle of Thanet R.D.C. to the Westgate-on-Sea Parochial Committee :

Supervision of Public Lighting.

Supervision of House Scavenging.

Supervision of Pleasure Gardens.

Supervision of Sewerage Works.

Powers and duties under Towns Police Clauses Act, 1847.

Power to deal with plans of proposed New Buildings.

Power to deal with Nuisances.

Area (including inland water) ...	...	...	...	604 acres
Population (Census 1911) ...	...	...	...	3,538
Population (Census 1921) ...	...	...	...	5,096
Population 1926 (estimated) ...	...	...	...	6,092
Assessable Value : General Expenses ...	...	...	...	£50,288
Special Expenses ...	...	...	...	£49,765
Amount produced by a Penny Rate : Special ...	...	...	...	£207
General ...	...	...	...	£210
Private Families (Census 1921) ...	...	...	...	791
Population in Private Families ...	...	...	...	3,571
Structurally separate dwellings occupied ...	...	...	...	706

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

No cases of what are usually described as infectious diseases were notified in Westgate during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS 19 (Pulmonary 12, Non-pulmonary 7)

## WATER SUPPLY.

The Parish of Westgate is supplied with water by the Westgate and Birchington Water Co., whose works are situated in the parish and consist of a pumping station with two wells about 95 feet deep and adits which are 6 feet wide and 7 feet high and extend for about 1,000 yards East and 2,200 yards West of the pumping station. The average quantity of water pumped per day is between 200,000 and 250,000 gallons. The supply is constant, and the reservoir, which consists of an overhead tank, holds about 29,120 gallons. This has been supplemented by the addition of a reinforced concrete overhead tank at Birchington, which has a storage capacity of 90,000 gallons. This was built to provide for the growing needs of the district. The company is seeking powers to extend their waterworks, and for this purpose are promoting a Bill in Parliament. It is proposed to construct a well and pumping station in the parish of Acol and also two adits.

A report on the chemical analysis of the water, dated 29th March, showed that the organic quality was excellent but that the hardness of the water, 30.0 parts per 100,000, was high. The company some years ago considered the question of installing a softening plant but came to the conclusion that the disadvantages outweighed the advantages to be gained. The report on the bacteriological examination of a recent sample was quite satisfactory.

### SEWERAGE.

The sewage is pumped into the sewers of the Margate Corporation and eventually enters the sea, being discharged at Foreness Point, about two miles east of Margate Jetty, where there is a screening and pumping station. The Westgate pumping station was erected in 1898. It is in charge of a competent engineer (under the supervision of the Surveyor of the Rural District), who lives in the cottage adjoining. The station contains gas engines and pumps in duplicate. Several loans have been obtained for sewerage works at Westgate, the first being in 1898 for £15,015.

### SCAVENGING.

The work is carried out under the direct supervision of the Sanitary Inspection. In addition to the weekly collection, more frequent visits are made to the hotels, fish shops and large boarding houses during the "season." Two four-wheel modern dust carts are constantly in use, horses for which are hired from a local contractor.

### BIRCHINGTON.

Although included in the area under the control of the Isle of Thanet Rural District Council, the local administration of the parish is in the hands of the Parish Council and the Parochial Committee of the Rural District Council which is formed of the two Rural District Councillors of the parish and the nine Parish Councillors for the time being. This Committee has the following powers delegated to them by the Isle of Thanet R.D.C. The sanction of that Council, however, must be obtained for the institution of legal proceedings and the spending of money.

Supervision of House Scavenging.

Supervision of Street Watering.

Supervision of Public Lighting.

Power to grant licences to owners and drivers of Hackney Carriages.

Powers and duties under Secs. 37 to 68, Towns Police Clauses Act, 1847, and Sec. 4 of the Towns Police Clauses Act, 1889.

Area (including water)	...	...	...	...	1,671 acres
Population (Census 1911)	...	...	...	...	2,275
Population (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	3,503
Population 1926 (estimated)	...	...	...	...	4,324
Assessable Value : General Expenses	...	...	...	...	£28,957
Special Expenses	...	...	...	...	£27,716
Amount produced by Penny Rate : General	...	...	...	...	£121
Special	...	...	...	...	£115
Private Families (Census 1921)	...	...	...	...	672
Population in Private Families	...	...	...	...	3,125
Structurally separate dwellings occupied	...	...	...	...	661

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following cases were notified during the year :—

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	..	...	...	...	3



## TUBERCULOSIS.

Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	5
Non-pulmonary	...	...	...	...	2

## WATER SUPPLY.

The parish of Birchington is supplied with water by the Westgate and Birchington Water Co. A description of the works is given in the Westgate report.

## SEWERAGE.

There is no system of sewerage for the parish although the matter has been under the consideration of the Rural District Council for many years. In the year 1899 a sewerage scheme was adopted by the District Council for the parish but was not carried through owing to objections being raised by the Board of Trade. The need for draining the parish was referred to from time to time in his annual reports by my predecessor, the late Dr. M. K. Robinson, and in April, 1922, after an outbreak of Diphtheria had occurred, I reported to the Council on the subject and recommended that a scheme for the whole parish should be considered, but suggested that for the present only that part which dealt with the sewerage of that portion of the village included in an area within a radius of half a mile from the Parish Church should be proceeded with, for I felt that within this radius was situated the most congested portion of the village and that which was most in need of being sewered. In January, 1923, members of the Birchington Parish Council discussed with the R.D.C. the question of the sewerage of the parish, and as a result action was taken by the Sanitary Inspector whereby many privies and pail closets were converted into w.c.'s. Owing to the very unsatisfactory condition of the roads the R.D.C. applied to the Minister of Health for sanction to adopt the Private Streets Works Act for the parish. As a result of this application an enquiry was held at Birchington on the 17th July, 1925, by a Medical Officer and an Engineer Inspector of the Ministry. The Minister of Health having refused to sanction the adoption of the Private Streets Works Act, the District Council had no alternative but to again consider the adoption of a scheme, and resolved in April, 1926, to appoint a Sewerage Committee for Birchington consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and two Birchington District Councillors and two members of the Birchington Parish Council, and at their meeting on the 10th June the Council resolved to appoint a consulting engineer and to authorise him to make a report on the sewerage of Birchington and prepare a scheme for draining the parish. The report on the sewage and sewage disposal was received in November and is under consideration. There are other reasons for the adoption of a sewerage scheme in addition to the making up of the roads, one being that nuisances are bound to occur in connection with cesspools, pail closets and privies, and infectious diseases may develop in consequence. Another, the possibility of the water supply obtained from the Westgate and Birchington Waterworks Co., being contaminated; this was pointed out by the Local Government Board in a letter to the R.D.C. in 1914. Then, there is the fact that public conveniences cannot be erected in Birchington, where they are badly needed, unless satisfactory means of draining them are provided.

The Sanitary Inspector reports as follows with regard to caravans, Minnis Bay, Birchington: "Some complaints were again made of the unsuitable and unsightly position of these caravans. However, in company with the Medical Officer of Health, I paid several visits and found no nuisance. There are eight caravans, which are placed on wheels on five separate fenced-in plots of ground, covering about two-thirds of an acre, and owned by each occupier. Each occupier has provided a patent "Elsan" Closet; waste paper is burnt, refuse is placed in ashbins and collected weekly by the Local Authority. One water tap connected to the main supply is

situate in a convenient position for the needs of the occupants. The caravans, which are only occupied during the summer months, were not overcrowded, were very clean, and had permanent ventilation. No animals were kept, and the ground was partly cultivated and in a tidy condition. The occupants were not infringing any of the Council's bye-laws, and in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health and myself, the encampment was not a nuisance or injurious to health within the meaning of the Public Health Acts."

The following are extracts from the report of the Sanitary Inspector :—

### HOUSING.

During the year the Council completed the erection of eight houses each in the parishes of Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington, and also erected an additional twelve houses in each of these parishes. In Minster the Council's four new houses were completed, and an additional eight houses are nearing completion. Subsidies have been made to builders or owner-occupiers for 30 dwelling houses. 150 houses were built during the year (including the Council houses), and about 43 built by private enterprise can be said to be suitable for the working classes. Four notices to abate overcrowding have been complied with, and I find that by the erection of more dwellings, overcrowding is not now so acute in the district.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Each of the premises were visited where infectious diseases had occurred, and enquiries made as to the source of the infection, and a report sent to the Medical Officer of Health. In cases where patients, or contacts, were school children, suitable notices were sent to the affected schools, and to the School Attendance Officers, regarding the exclusion of children from infected houses.

### DISINFECTION.

Total number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	59
Total number of vanloads of bedding, clothing, etc., steam disinfected	...	...	...	29
Number of mattresses and beds steam disinfected	...	...	...	53
Number of articles of bed clothing steam disinfected	...	...	...	263
Number of personal articles of clothing steam disinfected	...	...	...	194

### SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND INSPECTION OF FOOD.

Number in the district, 8.

All licensed annually. No change of occupation occurred during the year. They are situated as follows: 2 in Birchington, 2 in Minster, 2 in Sarre, 1 in St. Nicholas, and 1 in Westgate-on-Sea.

Number of inspections (slaughter houses)	...	...	174
Number of inspections (butchers' shops)	...	...	86

It is impossible, although desirable, for me alone to adequately examine all the carcasses in the slaughter houses and butchers' shops in five scattered parishes of a rural district, but owing to the clerical assistance provided me I have been able to do more in this direction.

*Amount of Food Condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year.*

Beef	...	496 lbs.	} Total, 680 lbs. (as against 285 lbs. in 1925)
Mutton	...	40 lbs.	
Fish	...	144 lbs.	

The whole of the above meat was surrendered to me and destroyed by burying or burning it. No legal proceedings were necessary.

### FOOD AND DRUGS.

During the year 16 samples of milk were obtained formally by me as Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts, from nine dairymen in the



district. Each sample was certified by the County Analyst to be genuine milk. The average composition of the samples was as follows :

Milk Fat	...	...	...	3.66%
Solids not fat	...	...	...	8.66%

This average is slightly higher than last year, and it is evident that the minimum standard (3.0% and 8.5%) set by the Board of Agriculture in their Regulations, is attainable by the cowkeepers in this district.

All the samples of milk analysed were found to be free from perservatives.

No samples were taken during the year under the Milk and Cream Regulations.

#### *The Milk (Special Designations) Order.*

A licence was renewed to a cowkeeper for the production of Grade A (Tuberculin tested) Milk on his farm, and in conjunction with this three applications were received from purveyors for licences to sell this milk. They were renewed for another year.

Two samples of milk taken at the farm, and seven samples taken from retailers in the street, were bacteriologically examined and bacillus coli was present in six of the samples. The presence of bacillus coli in one-hundredth of a cubic centimetre is not in accordance with the regulations, and although the samples gave very low bacterial counts, yet along with the cowkeeper and purveyor of milk I am endeavouring to trace the entrance of these bacteria into the milk. Changes of staff and variations in the method of preparing the milk for sale may be cause of the presence of the coliform bacillus.

#### *Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.*

Number of registered cowkeepers and purveyors of milk ...	39
24 as cowkeepers, 8 as cowkeepers and purveyors, 7 as purveyors only)	
Number of cowsheds ...	54
Number of dairies and milkshops ( <i>not</i> including dairies at farms) ...	8
Number of cowkeepers and purveyors discontinued ...	1
Number registered during the year ...	7
Number of inspections made to dairies, cowsheds and milkshops ...	240
Approximate number of milking cows kept in the district	822

During the year the following improvements have been carried out at the following dairy farms, viz. :

Birchington	(P)	Floors of three cowsheds re-concreted, and ventilation improved.
Garlinge	(H)	A new cowshed and dairy erected to accommodate 25 cows.
Do.	(S)	Floors of three cowsheds re-concreted, and light and ventilation improved.
Do.	(B)	New dairy provided and floor of cowshed repaired.
Do.	(B)	Floor of dairy cemented.
Sarre	(B & S)	Two new dairies and cowsheds erected to accommodate about 90 cows. These sheds are exceptionally well built, cows back to back, with feeding passage and excellent provision for light and ventilation, separate cups with tap water laid on to same. A modern dairy has been erected with concrete floor, glazed tiles on the walls and adequate sterilising plant. The sheds are also lighted by electricity, which is made on the farm.

*Re the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926*

This Order, dated 6th July, 1926, is made under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, parts of which came into force on this date, whilst the operation of certain clauses is suspended for the years 1927 and 1928.

A synopsis of the Order was prepared by the Medical Officer of Health and issued as a leaflet to all purveyors of milk in the district. Its provisions are a distinct advance on previous milk legislation, and if care is exercised will prove a great boon to the general public, without at the same entailing hardship to the producer and retailer of milk.

## WATER SUPPLY.

Practically the whole of the water supply for the district is derived from the mains of the Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington Water Co., and the towns of Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs. The supplies are constant and of excellent quality. The village of Sarre was in December connected to the Margate main supply and tap water is now laid to all the houses in this parish. The outlying portions only of the district are still supplied with well water.

In all about 3,008 houses in the district are connected with the public mains, including 161 premises which were connected during the year, viz. : To new houses 150, and to old houses 11 (including 7 houses on the Cliff's End Estate).

## WATER SAMPLES.

Three samples of tap water were sent to the County Analyst for chemical analysis. Each sample was reported to be of very good quality and quite suitable for use as a drinking water.

Three samples of water were taken from wells in the village of Sarre and sent to the County Medical Officer of Health for bacteriological examination. These proved unsatisfactory, and assisted towards the provision of tap water.

## MINSTER SEWAGE FARM.

The farm is under my supervision. An engineer, a labourer, and an apprentice are appointed by the Council and are fully employed. It is situated one mile beyond the church. During the year the usual crops of hay, wurtzel and lavender were grown. Two Hornsby oil engines are in use, and during the year it was necessary for the plungers to one of the pumps to be renewed.

## TYPES OF CLOSETS IN THE DISTRICT.

At the present time there are about 2,329 closets and 729 pail closets and privies in the district.

The Council do not undertake the emptying of cesspools; this work is carried out by the owners of the property. The work of abolishing earth closets and substituting water closets in Birchington steadily continues. There are now only 49 privies and pail closets in use in the parish.

## REFUSE REMOVAL.

The removal of house refuse is carried out in the parishes of Westgate-on-Sea, Birchington, Minster, Garlinge and Manston. Contractors are appointed by the Council of each parish to do the work under my supervision. The refuse is removed weekly from the two former parishes. In the remaining parishes there is a monthly collection, but during the months of June to September a fortnightly collection is made in Minster and Garlinge and a bi-weekly collection in Westgate-on-Sea. There is at present no necessity for a system of scavenging in the remaining five small parishes in the district, namely, Acol, Stonar, St. Nicholas, Monkton and Sarre, as the householders are mainly agricultural workers and mix their ash refuse with



the contents of the earth closets and bury the same in their gardens. Two four-wheel modern dust-carts are constantly in use in Westgate-on-Sea and a modern two-wheel dust-cart constantly in use in Birchington. The refuse is tipped on to land remote from houses and satisfactorily dealt with. No complaints have been received during the year of any nuisance arising therefrom.

#### THEATRES, ETC. (Circular No. 120).

Periodical visits were made during the year, but no action was necessary in connection with the provisions of this Circular. There is one cinema each in Westgate-on-Sea and Birchington.

#### RENT RESTRICTION ACTS, 1920 AND 1923.

No applications were received during the year under these Acts.

#### CAMPS.

During the summer a large number of persons, mostly batches of Boy Scouts, Church Lads Brigades, etc., occupy certain grounds for camping purposes. I made periodical visits, and advised as to sanitary requirements, etc., and invariably found them kept in a tidy and satisfactory condition.

#### FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are three in the district—one situated at Manston in the vicinity of the Royal Air Force Camp, one in Minster, and one in Birchington. These premises were periodically inspected, and, with one exception, were kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.

Number of premises on the register at the end of the year :

Boot repairing	...	...	...	...	14
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	7
Joinery and carpentry	...	...	...	...	14
Retail bakehouses	...	...	...	...	8
Laundries	...	...	...	...	7
Cycle and motor repairing	...	...	...	...	10
Cabinet makers and upholsterers	...	...	...	...	6
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	4
Basket makers	...	...	...	...	2
Signwriters	...	...	...	...	1
Painters	...	...	...	...	7
Milliners	...	...	...	...	3
Watch repairers	...	...	...	...	2
Plumbers	...	...	...	...	8
Tailors	...	...	...	...	5
Saddlers	...	...	...	...	3
Tinsmiths	...	...	...	...	3
Cement block makers	...	...	...	...	2
Shipbreaking	...	...	...	...	1
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	4
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	111

(95 workshops, 12 factories, 4 workplaces)

Total number of inspections made	...	...	...	43
Number of notices of occupation received from H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	Nil
Ditto <i>re</i> sanitary matters	...	...	...	Nil

There is one underground bakehouse in Westgate.

	Total.	Factories.	Retail Bakehouses.	Workplaces (Restaurants etc.)	Other Workshops.
Number inspected ...	34	1	11	4	18
Number of inspections ...	43	1	15	5	22

## NOTICES SERVED.

				Defects found.	Defects remedied.
Want of cleansing and limewashing ...	...	...	...	6	6
Want of ventilation ...	...	...	...	—	—
Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	—	—
Drainage of wet floors ...	...	...	...	—	—
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable, insufficient or defective ...	...	...	...	2	1

## HOMEWORK (Sec. 107 to 115).

No lists of Outworkers were received during the year from employers within this district. The name of one outworker, residing in Birchington, was sent by an adjoining authority, the premises were inspected and found satisfactory.

TABULAR STATEMENT GIVING INFORMATION AS REQUIRED  
BY THE SANITARY OFFICERS' ORDER, 1922.

Particulars.	Total No. of Inspections made.	Total No. of Notices served.		Result of Notices served.			
		Statutory.	Informal.	Statutory.		Informal.	
				Complied with.	Outstand- ing.	Complied with.	Outstand- ing.
Inspection of— Dwelling-houses and other premises under the P.H. & H. Acts. ...	265	11	157	9	3	130	20
Re-inspections and visits—ditto ...	374	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ...	240	2	55	1	1	52	3
Factories and Work- shops ...	43	—	7	—	—	7	—
Slaughter-houses & Butchers' Premises	260	—	30	—	—	30	—
Re Infectious Dis- ease ...	7 0						
Under Rats and Mice Act ...	120						
Under Petroleum Acts ...	52						
Number of Visits to Minster Sew- age Farm ...	10						
Number of Meetings attended ...	42						
Number of Letters sent ...	657						
Number of Com- plaints received ...	71						



# DESCRIPTION OF SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT AFTER NOTICES TO OWNERS OR OCCUPIERS.

## ASHPITS.

Portable ash receptacles provided	...	...	...	31
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## PAIL CLOSETS.

New ones provided	...	...	...	9
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## DRAINS.

No. of premises where new drains were laid or old drains reconstructed	...	...	...	...	26
New cesspools built	...	...	...	...	3
Cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	40
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	9
Soil and ventilating pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	7

## WATER CLOSETS.

Provided with a sufficient supply of water	...	...	...	16
Limewashed or cleansed	...	...	...	—
Provided in lieu of earth closets	...	...	...	12
Repaired	...	...	...	1
New pans provided	...	...	...	17
New flush pipes fixed or repaired	...	...	...	16
Light and ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	—
New cisterns fixed or repaired	...	...	...	20
New water closets provided	...	...	...	4

## HOUSES.

Means of ventilation improved	...	...	...	14
Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	13
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	27
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	16
Water spouts fixed or repaired	...	...	...	14
New sinks fixed	...	...	...	4
New trapped waste pipes fixed to sinks and baths	...	...	...	6
Accumulation of manure or refuse removed	...	...	...	10
Nuisances abated arising from the keeping of swine and other animals	...	...	...	10
Yards cemented or repaired	...	...	...	1
New floors laid or repaired	...	...	...	23
Provided with a sufficient supply of water	...	...	...	11
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous work not classified above	...	...	...	16

## HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total (including Nos. given separately under (b))	150
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts ...	
(1) By the Local Authority	44
(2) By other bodies or persons	30

## 1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

### Inspection.

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	59
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	33

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	4
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	46
2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	20
3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.	
A. <i>Proceedings under Sec. 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ... ..	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... ..	Nil
B. <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts :</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	25
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ... ..	20
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
C. <i>Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :</i>	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... ..	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	4
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-house having been rendered fit ... ..	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (voluntarily) ... ..	1

The report for the year 1926 is an ordinary report.

The vital statistics are as follows :—

Death Rate from all causes per 1,000 in the United District	11.06
Birth Rate ... ..	11.17

The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 23, which is a small number.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 38, which is low, that for England and Wales being 70.



As regards notifiable diseases, the following table gives the number of cases notified of three diseases during the past six years.

		Diphtheria.		Scarlet Fever.		Typhoid Fever.
1921	...	154	...	128	...	3
1922	...	106	...	114	...	3
1923	...	27	...	36	...	—
1924	...	16	...	63	...	1
1925	...	24	...	64	...	24
1926	...	54	...	67	...	2

Smallpox continued to be prevalent in many parts of England and Wales. About 10,205 cases were notified during the year, most of them being of a mild type. Fortunately the United District remained free of the disease.

It has not yet been possible to bring about the formation of a Joint Hospital Board for the three sanitary districts included in the Blean Union, namely, Blean R.D., Herne Bay U.D., and Whitstable U.D., which with the provision of a Joint Isolation Hospital would be of great advantage to the three districts.

The outbreak of Infantile Paralysis in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D. and the outbreak of Diphtheria in the Blean R.D. which occurred at Hoath were the most noteworthy features in connection with notifiable diseases during the year.

Very satisfactory progress has been made in Broadstairs and St. Peter's, in Herne Bay and in the Isle of Thanet districts during the year in the provision of houses by the respective Councils for the working classes. When all the houses now in course of erection are finished it will be possible to take more energetic action in dealing with unsatisfactory houses, either by means of closing orders with a view to the dwellings being demolished, or if capable of repair, being rendered fit for human habitation. It is the duty of the Medical Officer of Health to represent to the District Council any house which he considers unfit for human habitation, and if the Council are satisfied it is their duty to make a Closing Order, and if necessary, to take proceedings before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction in order to obtain vacant possession. It is not necessary for the Council to provide alternative accommodation for the tenants.

The existence of cesspools in certain low-lying portions of the Blean Rural District still gives cause for complaint, and the erection of houses with bathrooms and w.c.'s where sewers are not provided tends to increase the number of nuisances. As regards the parish of Whitstable-cum-Seasalter, it is hoped that the purchase of a motor cesspool evacuator will, by the more rapid emptying of the cesspools, bring about a better state of affairs.

I feel that the watering of the streets in those parts of the district where shops are situated is a necessary measure for protecting the public health and should be carried out systematically in order to prevent dust being blown on to meat and other food exposed for sale. Everything should be done to prevent the contamination of food, and all steps should be taken by removal of house refuse and manure, and the keeping of streets and alleys in a clean condition to prevent the breeding of flies, which carry disease.

The fact that the village of Sarre has been provided with a public water supply from the Margate Corporation main at Gore Street, about a mile distant, during the year, mainly through the public-spirited action of the local landowner, is a matter for congratulation. All the parishes in the Thanet rural district have now a public supply.



It is hoped that it will be possible soon for a public supply to be provided for the parish of Blean and surrounding neighbourhood, as it seems likely that the Canterbury Water Co. will increase the height of their water tower at St. Thomas's Hill.

On the 1st October the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, made by the Minister of Health under Sec. 1 of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, came into force. The most important provisions of the order which revokes the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885, 1886 and 1889, are those relating to the health and inspection of cattle and to the handling, conveyance and distribution of milk. The Order also deals with the lighting and ventilation of cowsheds, water supply and construction of floors. The Medical Officer of Health is given, under the Order, increased power to enable him to deal with outbreaks of infectious disease due to contaminated milk.

The tendency to hand over the administration of Public Health matters from local sanitary authorities to the County Council has been recently exemplified by the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, and the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

Puerperal Fever has been a notifiable disease for many years. Puerperal Pyrexia is defined as a febrile condition occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth, or miscarriage, in which a temperature of 100.4 degs. F. or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours or has recurred during that period. Cases of these diseases have to be notified to the District Medical Officer of Health, the medical practitioner in attendance at the same time stating whether he wishes to have (1) a second opinion on the case, (2) a bacteriological examination made, (3) the patient admitted to hospital, (4) trained nurses provided. It is the duty of the District Medical Officer to send a copy of the notification to the County Medical Officer within 24 hours after its receipt, the County Council then take steps to meet the requirements of the medical practitioner. As regards the provision of hospital treatment for cases of these two diseases in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District and the Isle of Thanet Rural District arrangements have been made for their admission to a special ward in the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital. The Blean Rural District Council have agreed to admit cases of Puerperal Fever notified in their district or in the Herne Bay Urban District to their Isolation Hospital.

As regards the Housing (Rural Workers) Act this is intended to promote the repair, alteration, provision of water supply, drainage, etc., in the case of working-class dwellings in rural districts where the cost of work is not less than £50 and the value of the dwelling does not exceed £400, by means of grants or loans which may be given on certain conditions. The local authority for the purpose of this Act shall be the Council of the County or the Council of a County Borough, provided that the Minister may, on the application by the Council of any County District made to him before the 31st March, 1927, declare the Council of any County District to be the local authority.

In connection with housing a reduction in the subsidy is to be made. In the case of houses built under the Housing Act, 1923, it is to be reduced from £6 a year for 20 years to £4 a year for the same period. In the case of urban houses built under the Housing Act, 1924, the subsidy is reduced from £9 to £7 10s. a year, and in houses in rural districts from £12 10s. per year to £11 for 40 years. The changes take effect at the end of September, 1927. According to official figures, the aggregate cost of the houses authorised under the three Acts, 1919, 1923 and 1924, spread over a period of 60 years will be over £480,000,000 of which sum the Act of 1919 is responsible for £472,000,000.



The number of houses completed during the year ended September 30th, 1926, in England and Wales was 195,895 of which 131,895 were classed as subsidy houses, the number for the previous twelve months was 159,026.

The Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926, was passed during the year. It amends the Midwives Acts of 1902 and 1918 and deals with the registration and inspection of maternity homes.

In my quarterly report to the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council in April, I recommended to the Council the desirability of making regulations under the Housing Act, 1925, Sec. 18, for rooms habitually used as sleeping places, the surface of the floors of which is more than three feet below the surface of the part of the street adjoining. These regulations were made and are waiting the sanction of the Minister of Health.

The County Council, having decided to put into operation a scheme for the treatment of children of school age or under who are suffering from crippling defects, it has been arranged that a clinic shall be opened at Broadstairs on April 5th where an Orthopaedic Surgeon will attend. Arrangements have been made for the reservation of 80 beds at the Alexandra Hospital, Swanley, 48 of these will be for tuberculous cripples and 32 for patients suffering from crippling effects due to other causes. Education will be provided for children of school age. The scheme will apply to the following :

All tuberculous cripples up to sixteen years of age.

All non-tuberculous cripples up to five years of age.

All non-tuberculous cripples who are on the roll of one of the schools of the Kent Education Committee.

The adoption of what is called the humane slaughtering of animals is considered by various local authorities from time to time. The Isle of Thanet Rural District Council has a bye-law which provides for the use of the humane killer, but in February, 1924, the Council decided that the bye-law should remain in abeyance. There has been a considerable amount of prejudice on the part of butchers to the use of the humane killer and this was not altogether surprising when a bullet was used, but now that the captive bolt pistol has been perfected there seems little reason why it should not come into general use.

In conclusion, one may mention two matters which show the result of public health work, one being Typhoid Fever. In the ten years from 1871 to 1880 the average number of deaths from this disease in England and Wales was 7842. The number gradually dropped until the average for the ten years from 1911 to 1920 was 1278, and in the year 1925 there were only 388 deaths. The other, Diphtheria, not only have the number of deaths decreased from 8067 each year from 1891 to 1900 down to 2774 in 1925, but the death rate per 1,000 of the population has diminished from .26 to .07 mainly owing to the introduction in 1894 of the serum treatment. Before the year 1894, in laryngeal cases of this disease treated in the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board the percentage mortality was 62. This gradually fell with the use of anti-toxin to a percentage mortality of 11.7 in the year 1910. The following figures dealing with the cases of Diphtheria treated in the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital are of interest.

Cases treated.						Mortality.
1922	...	...	136	...	...	12.0 per cent
1923	...	...	59	...	...	6.7 per cent
1924	...	...	41	...	..	7.3 per cent
1925	...	...	112	...	...	1.7 per cent
1926	...	...	82	...	...	3.6 per cent

Not only does public health work save life and prolong life, but also by reducing the incidence of disease saves the expense to the ratepayers of dealing with outbreaks. The reputation of a district as a healthy seaside resort is of the greatest importance and cannot be estimated in money.

## ACTS OF PARLIAMENT, REGULATIONS AND ORDERS

affecting the United District which have come into force, and  
BYE-LAWS which have been adopted since the year 1920.

- 1921. Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1921.  
Food Control Milk (Mothers and Children) Order.
  
- 1922. Milk and Dairies Amendment Act, 1922.  
Public Health Sanitary Officers' Order.  
Milk (Special Designations) Order.  
Public Health (Meat Inspection) Circular.  
Bye-laws dealing with Offensive Trades made by the Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.C.
  
- 1923. Housing, etc., Act, 1923.  
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.C. Act, 1923.  
Part 4 Public Health Act (Amendment) Act, 1907. Came into force in the Isle of Thanet R.D. and the Blean R.D.  
Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923.  
Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923.  
Bye-laws made by the Herne Bay U.D.C. for dealing with Offensive Trades.  
Chicken-pox added to the list of notifiable diseases in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D. and the Isle of Thanet R.D.  
Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923.  
Regulations in connection with Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops made by the Blean R.D.C.
  
- 1924. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1924.  
The Public Health Meat Regulations, and the Rural District Council's Slaughter Houses Order, 1924.  
Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations.  
The Isle of Thanet R.D.C. obtained power under the Public Health Act, 1875 (Sec. 112) to deal with the Offensive Trade of Fish Fryer in Birchington and Westgate-on-Sea.  
Bye-laws made by the Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.C. with respect to houses Let in Lodgings.  
Bye-laws made by the Herne Bay U.D.C. with respect to houses Let in Lodgings.
  
- 1925. The Housing Act, 1925.  
The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915.  
Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations.  
Public Health Act, 1925.  
Land Charges Act.  
Small Dwellings Acquisition Act adopted by the Herne Bay U.D.C.  
Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations, 1925.  
Foot and Mouth Disease Orders issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.  
Memorandum on duties of Medical Officers of Health issued.  
The Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations.  
Therapeutic Substances Act, 1925.



1926. Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.  
 Housing (Rural Workers) Act.  
 Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations.  
 Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations.  
 Midwives and Maternity Homes Act.  
 Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926.

The number of houses built in the four districts during the last three years :

1924.	Blean R.D.	...	...	...	...	83
	Herne Bay U.D.	...	...	...	...	76
	Isle of Thanet R.D.	...	...	...	...	84
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	...	...	...	...	121
1925.	Blean R.D., including 20 by the Chislet Colliery Co.					116
	Herne Bay U.D.	...	...	...	...	92
	Isle of Thanet R.D.	...	...	...	...	73
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	...	...	...	...	95
1926.	Blean R.D.	...	...	...	...	79
	Herne Bay U.D.	...	...	...	...	130
	Isle of Thanet R.D.	...	...	...	...	150
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	...	...	...	...	178

Steps have not yet been taken to carry out recommendations made in previous reports with regard to the Isolation Hospital of the Blean Rural District Council, and also the Smallpox Hospital of the Herne Bay Urban District Council.

#### HERNE BAY RIPARIAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Circular 762 of the Ministry of Health, dated 4th February, 1927, has been received. The only ships which entered the port during the year were the passenger steamers belonging to the New Medway Steam Packet Co., which called at the Pier during the summer and landed and embarked passengers proceeding to and from Chatham, Southend and Margate.

# INDEX.

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Acts ... ..	17, 28, 38, 57, 69
Ambulance Facilities ... ..	12
Area ... ..	4, 17, 28, 38, 51
Bacteriological Work ... ..	16
Bakehouses ... ..	27, 38
Birchington Parish ... ..	57
Blean Rural District ... ..	17
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District ... ..	38
Byelaws ... ..	17
Burial Ground ... ..	21
Camps ... ..	62
Census ... ..	7
Child Welfare Centres ... ..	12
Closet Accommodation ... ..	23, 34, 51
Closing Orders ... ..	22, 33, 47, 55
Committee (East Kent No. 1 United District) ... ..	3
Common Lodging House ... ..	6
Crippled Children ... ..	68
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops ... ..	27, 60
Disinfection ... ..	16, 20, 31, 42, 54
Disinfectors ... ..	16, 32, 46, 54
District Nursing ... ..	13
Enquiries (Ministry of Health) ... ..	23
Factory and Workshop Acts ... ..	25, 38, 62
Food and Drugs Acts ... ..	48, 59
Food Inspection ... ..	27, 50
Health Visitors ... ..	15
Herne Bay Urban District ... ..	28
Herne Bay Riparian Sanitary Authority ... ..	70
Hospital Accommodation ... ..	10
Hospitals Isolation ... ..	10, 20
Hospitals Smallpox ... ..	11
Housing ... ..	22, 25, 33, 36, 46, 49, 59, 64, 67
Infectious Disease ... ..	20, 31, 36, 41
Isle of Thanet Rural District ... ..	51
Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board ... ..	10
Maternity and Child Welfare ... ..	15
Medical Officer of Health ... ..	5
Meteorology ... ..	34, 48



Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	27, 37, 60, 67
Notices Served	...	...	...	...	...	...	24, 35, 48, 63
Notifiable Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	8, 19, 21, 32, 40, 53
Nursing Institutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Occupation of Inhabitants	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Particulars of Work carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	24, 35, 48, 63
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	4, 17, 28, 38, 51
Poor Law Institutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Poor Law Relief	...	...	...	...	...	...	17, 28, 38, 51
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Rates	...	...	...	...	...	...	17, 28, 38, 51
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	17, 28, 38, 51
Regulations Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Regulations Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	27, 38, 50, 59
Royal Air Force	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Sanitary Inspectors	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Scavenging	...	...	...	...	...	...	23, 33, 34, 61
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	16, 25, 55
School Clinics	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
School Nursing	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Sewerage	...	...	...	...	...	...	47, 57, 58
Shellfish	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	27, 38, 59
Staff	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	9, 11, 19, 31, 53
Tuberculosis Dispensaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Vaccination	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Vital Statistics	...	...	...	...	...	...	7, 8, 17, 28, 39, 45, 51
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	23, 34, 45, 56, 61
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	23, 34, 45, 61
Westgate-on-Sea	...	...	...	...	...	...	56